FBIS DAILY REPORT

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U.S., USSR ARMS DELEGATIONS HOLD PLENARY MEETING

LD141322 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Geneva March 14 TASS -- A plenary meeting of the delegations of the USSR and the USA at the talks on nuclear and space weapons has been held here today.

COMMENTATORS EXAMINE GENEVA ARMS TALKS

Bovin Interviewed

AU131742 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 11 Mar 85 p 3

["Abbreviated part" of interview given by Aleksandr Bovin, IZVESTIYA politica' commentator, to Ing Bohumil Horak on the Czechoslovak radio: "Very Restrained Optimism; A. Bovin Prior to the USSR-U.S. Negotiations in Geneva"]

[Text] This Saturday and Sunday [9 and 10 Mar] the Czechoslovak radio broadcast in its "Studio 7" program a talk between Ing Bohumil Horak, chief editor of the Main Editorial Office of INTERNATIONAL LIFE, and Aleksandr Bovin, outstanding Soviet political commentator of the daily IZVESTIYA. From that extensive talk we have selected an abbreviated part, devoted to the problems of Soviet-American relations.

[Horak] The Soviet-American negotiations on the complex of nuclear and space arms -- the most comprehensive negotiations that will be ever conducted on these issues between the USSR and the United States -- will begin on Tuesday 12 March in Geneva. How do you appraise the prospects of these talks, Comrade Bovin?

[Bovin] Here we have one of the most significant events of the last few years. The very fact that the talks are taking place has great political weight. As regards their prospects, the talks will be very [preceding word published in widespace] -- I stress the word "very" -- difficult. They will be difficult for many reasons: both because the military-political problems that will be the subject of negotiations are very complicated, and also because they concern the very essence of the security of the participating countries and because each of them will be defending its interests and its idea of security.

Another reason is that our American partners, in my opinion, are not yet sufficiently prepared for a compromise. In this kind of negotiation, none of the sides can insist on 100-percent satisfaction of its demands. It is necessary to search for points where interests coincide [prolinaji], for the sphere in which it is possible to reach an agreement and to draw mutual stands closer to each other. If I look on the current development from this viewpoint, I must state that the U.S. stands, or at least the stands it has been maintaining to date, could scarcely aid the success of the coming Geneva negotiations.

[Horak] Many of our listeners are interested in what will happen if -- as you have just said -- the United States blocks the Geneva negotiations by its inconstructive approach?

[Bovin] In practical terms this will mean a continuation of feverish armament. The USSR will never tolerate a violation of the balance of strategic forces that has been created; it will not tolerate unilateral U.S. supremacy. That is why we will naturally continue to maintain the current equilibrium and, deplorably, we will be forced to do so on an increasingly higher level.

[Horak] This, of course, would have the most negative impact not only on Soviet-American relations, but also on the general international situation...

[Bovin] Understandably so, Of course, I believe that, in the long-term perspective, there exists no alternative to detente. The understanding of the fact that nuclear war is suicidal, feverish armament catastrophic, and that the world would increasingly approach the edge of the abyss from which we would not be able to emerge, will sooner or later force the Americans to start constructive negotiations with us.

[Horak] The current visit of the Soviet parliamentary delegation to the United States and the reception of Comrade Shcherbitskiy, head of this delegation, by President Reagan indicate that, despite the divergent stands, realistic possibilities do not exist for improving Soviet-American relations.

[Bovin] You are right. At the present moment it would be incorrect to assess USSR-U.S. relations in an exclusively one-sided way. Of course, they are on the whole rather bad. However, the very fact that negotiations in Geneva are taking place, the visit of our parliamentary delegation to the United States, as well as the recent visit of the U.S. secretary of commerce to Moscow and the Soviet-American consultations on the Mideast problems recently held in Vienna indicates that a certain movement and certain elements do exist. It is not to be excluded that their gradual accumulation will effect qualitative changes. We would greatly wish this. However, I personally am not convinced that the present American Administration will agree to such a radical change of its stands. We will see...

Burlatskiy Comments

PM141113 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Mar 85 p 9

[Fedor Burlatskiy "Political Notes:" "To End Nuclear Games!"]

[Text] So, the Soviet-American talks on space and nuclear arms have begun in Geneva.

All people in the East and West who are concerned about the fate of peace thrist for positive, practical results from these talks. They want results that accord with the aims proclaimed by both sides: to achieve an end to the arms race on earth and prevent its development in space, to reduce existing arms, and ultimately to eliminate nuclear weapons.

However, probably, seldom has so much depended on first steps, on the start made at talks. These steps will determine which way the matter goes: Whether a constructive approach based on the real desire of both sides to end the arms race finally triumphs.

Speaking about the USSR's approach to the Geneva talks in his speech at the 11 March 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, emphasized: "..We do not seek to achieve unilateral advantages over the United States and the NATO countries or strive for military superiority over them; we want to end, not continue the arms race. Therefore, we propose to freeze nuclear arsenals and end the further deployment of missiles; we want a real and major reduction in stockpiled arms, not the creation of more and more new weapons, either in space or on earth."

The nuclear contest begun by the United States has been going in for 40 years. Unprecedented material and intellectual resources and trillions of dollars, rubles, pounds sterling, francs, and yuan have been expended.

What has happened? This contest has mercilessly destroyed the security in which people would be living without nuclear weapons. Fear of an apocalypse has become the lifelong companion of people on earth. This contest has become the chief source of the tension that has put the whole world in a fever. Enough! The nuclear game must be ended! This is the first demand that all people address to Geneva -- we are sure of this.

The 2 months that have elapsed since the accord on the talks have been filled with tempestuous polemics. As readers know, the "star wars" problem found itself at the center of the discussion. The White House is in a hurry to take actions that would render irreversible the process of implementing the so-called research into antimissile weapons with space-based elements at a cost of $26 billion. This has aroused heated protests in West Europe, and also in the United States itself.

A fundamental question relating to the historical long term is being resolved right now. The point is that the new technological revolution has opened up immense possibilities for creating previously unknown types of arms and modernizing existing types: nuclear, missile, conventional -- in short, absolutely all spheres of military competition. The American program for the creation of ABM systems alone will cost at least $400 billion. If we speak of the entire modernization program, designed to cover a period of 15-20 years, it will probably cost two or three times as much. All this spending can only lead to a still greater increase in the threat of nuclear war.

Many American experts are understanding about this problem. The LOS ANGELES TIMES writes: "The arms control talks that have begun in Geneva this week signify the start of a new chapter in Soviet-American relations marked by the fear that the deadly rivalry might be transferred to space and that new weapons systems, capable of upsetting the fragile equilibrium which for 40 years has been the basis for nuclear peace, will be developed."

At a meeting in the White House with provincial newspaper editors U.S. President R. Reagan declared: "Our delegation is ready to put forward specific and constructive proposals. It will in turn respond to Soviet proposals put forward in a spirit of goodwill by displaying flexibility and active interest." At the same time the President emphasized that the United States intends to "increase reliance on defensive systems." In other words, the President continues to champion his "star wars" program. How is it possible to seriously plan on reducing arms on earth and at the same time deploying them in space?

President R. Reagan dislikes the word "freeze," although it came into being in America and is supported by the overwhelming majority of that country's public opinion. OK, let him find another word, but leave the essence: the ending of nuclear games, which are costly and lead to the madness of worldwide catastrophe. Do the American Administration and its representatives in Geneva have this resolve? This is the fundamental question, and this is probably what will come to light at the initial stage of the talks.

TASS Analyst Chernyshev

LD131936 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 13 Mar 85

["Futile Hopes" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

The Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons which began in Geneva are evoking much interest all over the world. The Soviet Union came to the talks with a sincere desire to achieve concrete results.

The constructive progress of the talks can be ensured if they are conducted strictly in accord with the agreement reached by the leaders of the diplomatic communities of the two countries in Geneva on January 7-8, the agreement defining the subject matter and objectives of the talks. The USSR is prepared to follow that agreement consistently and in full.

And what about the USA? American newspapers, quoting "sources close to the U.S. delegation," cast some light on the instructions given to the U.S. negotiators in Washington. The following circumstances cause already now particular worry to all those who would like the talks to follow a positive course.

First, Washington does not want any discussion or solution of the questions concerning the non-militarisation of space and the limitation and reduction of strategic and medium-range nuclear weapons in their entirety, in their close interrelationship -- which is contrary to the Soviet-American agreement. Washington's intention is to separate all those issues from one another and to tackle them individually.

Second, the U.S. Administration is going to detach altogether the question of ending the arms race in space from the context of the talks. As THE NEW YORK TIMES points out President Reagan would like first to cut back offensive weapons and then to reach "accord" on the phased deployment of ABM systems with space-based components. This intention also is contrary to the preliminary agreement on working out an accord to prevent the arms race in space. What Washington would like to discuss is "rules" for this race.

These "instructions" belie the unwillingness to seek positive results. Indeed, the need for a comprehensive approach to reductions of nuclear armaments and the non-militarisation of space is prompted not by any time-serving considerations but by the actual world strategic situation. If Washington did not have plans to develop ABM systems with space-based components, the question of including space in the agenda of the talks would not have arisen. But the USA, far from renouncing those plans, seeks to "legalise" them on an international scale, to make them irreversible and to hand down the race in space and other armaments to the succeeding generations.

This approach also disregards the warnings of many U.S. arms control experts to the effect that the fulfilment of the plans for ABM defences could lead to an extremely explosive and unstable strategic situation fraught with nuclear conflict.

Third, the U.S. Administration is cynically trying to exploit the talks on nuclear and space weapons to justify the buildup of the U.S. strategic potential. Openly insulting logic and common sense, the U.S. President claims that the development of new first-strike weapons is an essential component of U.S. arms control strategy, one which allegedly would increase the chances for accord with the Soviet Union.

Following this line, the U.S. Administration has during the past few days increased pressure on Congress, demanding approval of appropriations to build another group out of the total 21 inter-continental ballistic missiles MX under the budget for the current fiscal year and "linking" that question to the Geneva talks.

All this shows that Washington has set out to outpace the Soviet Union in strategic nuclear armaments and simultaneously surreptitiously to spread the arms race into space. This course provokes doubts of the true intentions of the U.S. side in having agreed to the Geneva talks. What can be said on this score, Mikhail Gorbachev said in his election speech on February 21, 1985. It can only be said that such hopes are futile and the approach itself unacceptable if we talk about reaching agreements. The world public expects from Washington a constructive approach to the talks on the basis of strict observance of the principle of equality and equal security.

KHARKOV ANALYZES WORLD OPPOSITION TO SDI

LD132122 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The parliamentary group of the Netherlands ruling party, the Christian Democratic Appeal submitted on Tuesday [12 March] to the supreme legislative body of the country a draft resolution demanding that the militarisation of outer space be prevented. The document emphasizes the importance of all NATO's West European member-countries assuming the united stand aimed at non-admission of the arms race in space.

The call of the parliamentary group of the Netherland's ruling party is a new evidence of the fact that Washington's plans of "star wars" evoked a serious concern and opposition of the public and political circles of Western Europe. The so-called "strategic defense initiative" advanced by the President of the United States two years ago is essentially an offensive, aggressive concept, not a defensive one, the concept whose aim is the build up of first-strike nuclear missile potential.

This concept is a "serious destabilising factor" and is fraught with a new dangerous spiral of the arms race, said prominent leader of the British Conservative Party, former prime minister Edward Heath. The American Union of Concerned Scientists headed by laureate of the Nobel Prize physicist Bethe, holds that the creation of an anti-missile defence system with the elments of space-basing would actually torpedo the entire process of arms control.

The justice of these pronouncements is confirmed by the fact that alongside pushing through the "strategic defense initiative" Washington is implementing an unprecedented build up of the U.S. strategic nuclear arsenal. The White House is exerting efforts to brainwash the congressmen to get new appropriations for the production of another consignment of MX missiles, for the speeding up of the manufacture of the "B-1" bombers, "Trident" nuclear submarines.

Refusing to give up its fixed idea of achieving military superiority via outer space, the Pentagon is jeopardizing lives of hundreds of millions of people and even entire civilization. The threat of thermonuclear catastrophe looming over the world has never been so horrible.

The Soviet Union was and is doing everything possible and necessary to avert the that threat, to safeguard peace. Its ultimate aim is complete elimination of nuclear weapons everywhere. The continuity and consistency of this fundamental course of the CPSU and the Soviet state was confirmed in Moscow again these days.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, speaking at the plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee on Monday [13 March] stressed that the only reasonable way out the existing situation is agreement of the confronting forces on an immediate termination of the race, above all, nuclear arms, on earth and its prevention in space.

ACADEMICIANS INTERVIEWED ON SDI DISARMAMENT

DW121105 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 11 Mar 85 pp 138-148

[Interview with Andrey Kokoshin, deputy director of the United States of America and Canada Institute in Moscow; Aleksey Arbatov, department chief at the World Economics and International Relations Institute (IMEMO) in Moscow; and Aleksey Vasilyev, department chief of the United States of America and Canada Institute, by DER SPIEGEL editors Siegesmund von Ilsemann and Andreas Lorenz in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: U.S. President Reagan recently stated that he wanted to implement his space plans in any event. That ought to be a reason for you to be happy.

Kokoshin: Are you serious?

SPIEGEL: Yes, because you state in your study on U.S. space weapons that a missile defense umbrella in space would cost up to $2 trillion. Thus it would be so expensive that it would place a heavy burden on the economy of your ideological adversary, the United States.

Kokoshin: We have never maintained that the worse off the other side is, the better for us. We believe that these enormous expenditures must be paid for by the American people, by the working people. That is no reason for us to be jubilant.

SPIEGEL: That much concern for your ideological adversary is touching.

Kokoshin: (Laughs)

SPIEGEL: Is that proletarian internationalism?

Kokoshin: Correct. However, you must separate the ideological dispute from the arms race. It was never our aim to let the United States go bankrupt through the arms race.

Arbatov: You understand, we do not favor an enormous economic crisis breaking out in the capitalist world. Under such a crisis, the workers would be the main ones to suffer. A new spiral in the arms race would most of all be a tax burden for the working people.

SPIEGEL: Can the USSR stand such a race?

Kokoshin: We are against burdening the economy through an arms race and, therefore, we have submitted arms control proposals to cut military expenditures. The aim of our military expenditures was always to achieve parity, not superiority. Fewer weapons improve the prerequisites for the development of socialism in our country.

SPIEGEL: In the United States some people want to achieve the opposite.

Kokoshin: Naturally, we know that the United States wants to weaken us in an arms race. However, the United States will not achieve its aim of ransacking our country. Our political and economic system permits us to distribute the means more effectively and rationally because we are not interested in gains, in contrast to the private U.S. arms industry.

SPIEGEL: Do you believe that a system of space weapons such as that proposed by Reagan could ever work?

Vasilyev: In our report we have come to the conclusion that there will never be a total protection against offensive missiles. However, the mere attempt to establish an even imperfectly functioning defense system will heat up the arms race again. In our view, however, the means to destroy a U.S. space-based weapons system are much cheaper than the system itself.

SPIEGEL: Edward Teller, one of the chief initiators of Reagan's star wars programs, now is convinced that the opposite is correct. He thinks that a defense shield is cheaper than the means to penetrate it.

Vasilyev: What is cheaper, bringing these huge space weapons stations into orbit or releasing a cloud of splinters aimed at collision in outer space, which inevitably destroys such sensitive installations at high speed? In the first case, it is a billion-dollar project; project No 2 costs millions at least.

SPIEGEL: According to your calculations, Moscow would only have to spend one or two percent of the U.S. space weapons budget to destroy such a defense shield, in other words, to turn the superweapons into space scrap. Then why does your government make so much fuss about weapons that are absolutely useless?

Kokoshin: Our worries are of a political and strategical nature. In assessing the other side's military preparations on the whole, we think that a partially functioning defense system is as threatening for us as a totally effective system. An impenetrable protection shield could be used for warding off a first strike as well as for preventing a strategic counterstrike, whereas a partially effective space missile defense system can only be used for warding off the counterstrike of missiles after these have been reduced in a first strike.

SPIEGEL: What does this mean, in your view, for U.S. strategy?

Kokoshin: It increases the incentive for American strategists to risk a nuclear first strike under the protection of such a defense shield, however imperfect. It sounds paradoxical, however there are many paradoxes in the strategic field. Strategic stability would be upset. This is the main reason for our concern; it is not a question of how effective such space weapons will be in reality.

SPIEGEL: Reagan, however, stated that he wants to turn the now valid strategic principle of "mutually guaranteed destruction" into "mutually guaranteed security" with the help of his space-based defense. Don't you consider this plan enticing?

Kokoshin: The Soviet Union believes that dismantling the strategic weapons is a better way out of the current situation. We must start with it immediately. However, the U.S. Administration is further enlarging its strategic arsenal of offensive weapons and, in addition, it initiates a new arms round in space. In so doing Washington itself is admitting that what is at issue is not only research but also implementation of its system some day.

SPIEGEL: However, much time still remains till then. That must actually give you comfort.

Kokoshin: No, because it means that the threat of mutual destruction is to remain valid until beyond the new millenium. We should use the forthcoming decades, during which the United States wants to set up its space umbrella, for achieving considerable reductions in nuclear weapons. This would help to save money and result in a more stable situation.

Arbatov: The basic point in Washington's idea about space is actually nothing but an attempt at mastering a complex political problem with the means of arms technology. We find ourselves in a strategic arms race, in a climate of mutual distrust, and in an unstable international political situation. The way out proposed by the U.S. Administration in this respect actually means additional armament. This is aggravating these three problems.

SPIEGEL: It is hard to understand why the arms race is heating up if the countermeasures against the U.S. space program are supposed to be so inexpensive?

Vasilyev: On the one hand, the attempt is being made, of course, to develop measures to counter our countermeasures. This is a spiral. On the other hand, along with them other weapons systems are being developed and improved, such as cruise missiles, against which Washington's planned space umbrella does not give any protection. This way the arms race is being heated up in all fields...

SPIEGEL: ...but also the economic struggle between the systems. Teller believes that space armament will have enormous effects on civilian production branches. In his view, $26 billion could be set free for civilian economic fields through the space arms research now estimated at $26 billion. Are you afraid that this would further increase the Soviet Union's technological lagging vis-a-vis the West?

Kokoshin: As to the effects on the civilian production, I must say that most of the U.S. experts are of a quite different view. Some 25 to 30 years ago, Teller's hope might have been justified in some respects, but today the expensive military projects actually are draining vast resources from the civilian sector. As for the second part of your question, I must say that the hopes for "technological lagging" of the USSR have been a self-deception by the West for a long time now. This will also be so this time.

Arbatov: Teller most probably only wanted to make politicians and taxpayers -- who now are discussing investing $26 billion in space arms over the next 5 years -- believe that they need not be afraid, because the money would be flowing back plentifully.

SPIEGEL: The Soviet Union has not always opposed defense against nuclear missiles. In 1967 your then Prime Minister Kosygin said: "I think that a defensive system which is to prevent an attack cannot be the reason for the arms race. Maybe an antimissile system is more expensive than an offensive system; however, its task is not to kill people but to save human lives." This also could have been said by Reagan.

Arbatov: You cannot use 20-year-old quotations to argue a point today. This naturally also applies to the equally old allegation by U.S. military representatives that the Soviet missile defense system was the main threat for the United States.

SPIEGEL: This is what you are blaming the United States for now because of its space plans.

Arbatov: At the time Kosygin made his remark, there was neither strategic parity nor the principle of mutually guaranteed destruction. There was no missile defense system or any agreement on the limitation of strategic arms. Things are quite different today, and this changed situation is being endangered by the American space weapons system. Even more so, it threatens us and the entire world with the risk of nuclear war. Second only to the foregoing is our concern about the scientific, technical, and economic effects of the U.S. plans.

SPIEGEL: The political, military, and technological development will not come to a standstill. Hasn't President Reagan shown an interesting way out also for you in the face of these almost inevitable changes? He even wants to share American space know-how with the Soviet Union later on.

Arbatov: I have great doubt that the Americans will really be ready to share their know-how with us, since they are already trying today to conceal their knowledge about simple things, such as ball bearings, from us.

SPIEGEL: In the view of your government, a nuclear first strike is the aim of American space armament. Does this realization originate from American sources?

Kokoshin: It is absolutely clear, after all, that the United States does not lay its strategic aims openly on the table. However, the suspicion seems to be justified that a first strike is being prepared with the help of space armaments if one, in connection with space armaments, takes a look at the plans for the development of U.S. strategic nuclear weapons or if one recalls the remarks by government representatives and even by the secretary of defense, who above all in the early years of the Reagan administration often spoke about how to win a nuclear war. What must be added is that other possibilities of using space weapons are being discussed in the United States, such as how they may serve as a means for blackmail.

SPIEGEL: In what way?

Arbatov: Many experts agree that the stockpiling of more and more nuclear weapons is senseless. Today, some 50,000 nuclear warheads are lying in arsenals worldwide. This is out of all proportion regarding the number of targets in our countries and all over the world. The American programs reaching up to the end of this millenium can be viewed rather clearly. They do not provide for a reduction in strategic weapons. This is the reason for our distrust of the claim that space armament serves defense.

SPIEGEL: The Soviet Union has renounced the first use of nuclear weapons. In your study, you even write that Soviet troops therefore would be trained in a different way and that they would be regrouped. What do you mean by this?

Kokoshin: The commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is not only of political significance, but it also brings its influence to bear on the everyday training of our troops.

SPIEGEL: How has it changed?

Arbatov: As our defense minister plainly stated in the summer of 1982, in the training of Soviet Armed Forces, increased attention is being drawn to preventing an armed conflict from turning into nuclear war. This is why stricter standards are being applied to the training of troops and staffs. In addition, control measures are being intensified, so as to prevent an unauthorized use of nuclear weapons -- be they tactical or strategic.

SPIEGEL: You oppose a U.S. space-based defense. However unlike the Americans, the Soviets since late in the sixties are maintaining a missile defense system near Moscow which is now even modernized. Does Moscow claim a monopoly in this field?

Kokoshin: Well, what the Soviet Union possesses is fully in line with the ABM treaty of 1972 and its supplementary protocols. At the time we made a very realistic approach to the limitation of missile defense. Our opposition to an extensive missile defense system does not contradict this.

SPIEGEL: Moscow is yelling with disgust because Washington plans to set up a missile defense system like that which you already have. You must explain this contradiction to us.

Kokoshin: In the United States, a decisive new step is involved at the moment. We have only a very limited missile defense complex. It is only a part of what has been discussed in the sixties. The Americans also have many elements of such a system. As far as we know, they can very quickly further activate these defense missiles. Moreover, they do not only pursue research work, they also test new weapons. Facts demonstrate that the statement that the Soviet Union is more active than the United States in this field in the framework of the ABM treaty are completely unfounded.

Vasilyev: Since the 1972 agreement, the United States has spent some billion of dollars to perfect its antimissile weapons; the Army had and still has its own ABM programs. This has been confirmed by the Americans.

SPIEGEL: The United States justifies its space plans with the reproach that Moscow violates the ABM treaty. It mentions a huge radar apparatus near Krasnoyarsk and new anti-aircraft missiles which are said to have been tested also as antimissile weapons. Moreover, the Soviet Union is said to have pursued far-reaching military laser research work that could also be preparation for star wars. Does Washington have the same fears as Moscow?

Kokoshin: For me it is amazing that a considerable part of the people in the West still fail to see through the tricks of the Americans. How often have the advocates of a new arms race thought up new Soviet bombers and talked of a Soviet lead in missiles. I am convinced that this is also happening at the moment in connection with the alleged Soviet violations of the ABM treaty.

SPIEGEL: We beg you to produce evidence.

Kokoshin: It is said that we are ahead of the United States with regard to an antimissile system. Such statements are of the same character as the earlier campaigns. The public is deluged with falsifications. I am convinced that some time in the future, high-ranking Pentagon officials or high military officials will admit in their articles or memoirs: "In the early eighties, we exaggerated the potential of the Soviet Union."

SPIEGEL: Undoubtedly, it is unlikely that in your country, here in the Soviet Union, memoirs will be published demonstrating that the Americans did not invent their accusations. What about the radar near Krasnoyarsk?

Kokoshin: The Soviet Union takes all necessary precautions to safeguard its defense ability. However, in doing this, it never violates its contractual commitments. I just want to point out to you that U.S. activities contradicting the ABM treaty remain unmentioned. For example, intensified work is presently being done in the United States in connection with the development of mobile ABM missiles. Moreover, intercontinental ballistic missiles of the "Minuteman" type are being tested as antimissiles, and so on.

SPIEGEL: We will gladly ask the Americans about this. From you, we would prefer to learn what the radar apparatus near Krasnoyarsk is really for.

Kokoshin: Modern radar technology permits many functions of a civilian as well as a military character. However, those people in the United States who want to undermine the ABM treaty repeatedly try to insinuate that we pursue activities that are banned according to the treaty.

Arbatov: Your questions do not always seem to be in accordance with the state of discussions. This can probably be explained by the fact that the Americans change their arguments constantly. They want to implement the space program with all means and, therefore, they change their arguments according to the situation. For example: In the beginning, Washington stated that its space umbrella serves the protection of the whole world. According to statements of some U.S. Administration representatives, however, it is now said that only the silos of intercontinental missiles and other important military installations will be protected. It means that the protection of the population cannot be guaranteed.

SPIEGEL: Is the American offer to place Europe under also the umbrella a confusing tactic?

Vasilyev: Yes. Just keep in mind that according to American ideas, the enemy missile is in the respective effective radius of the antimissile system. The flying times of intermediate-range missile that could reach Europe...

SPIEGEL: ...such as the Soviet SS-20 missile...

Vasilyev: ...are much shorter than those of intercontinental missiles. Therefore, Europe cannot be protected by the space umbrella as well as the United States. Europe would be really protected only if it were freed of all nuclear weapons. This is what the Soviet Union supports...

SPIEGEL: ...while continuing to deploy nuclear missiles aimed at Europe. But let us return to star wars: The star wars concept is a matter of the future. At what point in its development do you see the Soviet Union's security endangered?

Kokoshin: There are elements of an antimissile system in space that are not only just a threat in the distant future, but that can be implemented in the next few years on the basis of existing technology, as some strategists maintain. We must not ignore that. Already in this connection, the U.S. Administration's statements that only research oriented at the distant future is involved are misleading.

SPIEGEL: Do you maintain that the ABM treaty is being violated just by research work?

Arbatov: Many things, among them the extension of research and development work, indicate that the United States wants to undermine the temporally unlimited ABM treaty.

SPIEGEL: The world hopes that in Geneva, a space arms race will be prevented. Assuming that an agreement is achieved there, could it be verified at all?

Kokoshin: The ban to create absolutely new weapons is much easier to verify than the limitation of already developed weapons. National control means can be very well used for that.

SPIEGEL: What if satellites, electronic monitoring apparatuses and similar mutually accepted means of spying do not suffice?

Kokoshin: Our leadership has stated more than once that the Soviet Union is prepared to apply other forms of control, presupposing that one will agree on a satisfactory, comprehensive agreement. Then inspections in the proper place will be possible.

SPIEGEL: Shall Soviet scientists go as controllers to the United States to inspect weaponry firms there and -- vice versa -- shall American scientists inspect what is being done in Soviet laboratories?

Kokoshin: Well, in the ideal case -- if we concluded, for example, an agreement on general and complete disarmament -- such a situation is feasible. An important remark in this connection was recently made by Foreign Minister Gromyko. He said that if research work were carried out in a room, it would not be so easy to test it. However, it is often true that a test area is used for this purpose is located next to a laboratory.

SPIEGEL: What prospects does Geneva offer, once Reagan has stressed that he wants to stick with his space research plans in any event, even if both sides agreed on a considerable dismantling of nuclear aggressive weapons?

Kokoshin: The Soviet Union wants most of all to prevent an arms race in sapce. That is also an important factor for the limitation of strategic weapons. In accordance with the Geneva agreement, the USSR insists that these problems must be viewed in context. It is clear that the talks will be very complicated. However, if both sides handle the matter constructively, constructive results could be very well achieved.

SPIEGEL: We thank you for this talk.

GORBACHEV, WARSAW PACT LEADERS HOLD MOSCOW TALKS

PM141039 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Friendly Meeting"]

[Text] A meeting took place today between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the heads of party-state delegation of the Warsaw Pact member-states who are in Moscow in connection with the demise of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Taking part in the meeting were: Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary, chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; Kadar, MSZMP first secretary; Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council; Jaruzelski, PZPR first secretary and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic; Ceausescu, RCP Central Committee general secretary and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania; and Husak, CPCZ general secretary and president of the CSSR. Those taking part in the meeting exchanged opinions on topical issues of socialist construction, preparations for the next congresses of the fraternal parties, and the contemporary international situation. General determination was expressed to continue to improve all-around political interaction, economic, ideological, and other cooperation.

At the meeting, there was confirmation of the aspiration of the Warsaw Pact member-states to consistently and constructively strive to bring about a lessening of tension in the world; to eliminate the threat of nuclear war; adopt effective measures in the sphere of disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament; and to prevent the militarization of space.

It was emphasized that in the conditions of the difficult international situation, strengthening the fraternal countries' unity and cohesion and stepping up coordination of action in the international arena assume special importance. Taking part in the conversation were: Comrade Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister; and K.V. Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality and unanimity.

Next Summit Set for April

AU132121 Paris AFP in English 2114 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, March 13 (AFP) -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev today chaired an informal meeting here of East European leaders at which it was agreed to hold a summit conference of the seven-member Warsaw Pact in early April in the Bulgarian capital, Sofia, East European sources said today. A summit that had been scheduled to be held in Sofia two months ago was indefinitely postponed because the previous Soviet leader, Konstantin Chernenko, was too ill to attend. The sources said today's meeting lasted longer than originally planned.

Mr Gorbachev, who was appointed secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party yesterday, was accompanied by Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and Prime Minister Nikolay Tikhonov. The meeting, TASS said, "confirmed the will of the countries members of the Warsaw Pact to fight firmly and constructively to lessen international tensions in the world and eliminate the threat of nuclear war."

The Warsaw Pact nations are the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, East Germany and Bulgaria.

ZHOLKVER OUTLINES COURSE OF USSR FOREIGN POLICY

LD141126 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Aleksandr Zholkver commentary]

[Text] The world public is paying great attention to the materials of the extraordinary plenum of the party Central Committee, to the speech by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and to his meetings and conversations with eminent state and public figures who came to Moscow for the funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. I am handing over the microphone to our political observer, Aleksandr Zholkver:

The foreign mass media are noting, first and foremost, that the strategic line elaborated at the 26th CPSU Congress and at subsequent plenums of the Central Committee was and remains unchanging. In the sphere of foreign policy it is a clear and consistent course of peace and social progress. The first precept of our party and state is to safeguard and, in all ways, to strengthen fraternal friendship with our nearest comrades-in-arms and allies, the countries of the socialist community. The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government have done everthing necessary for the development and deepening of political and economic cooperation of the socialist states, and for the enhancement of socialism's role and influence in world affairs. This was also reconfirmed at the meetings of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev with the party and state delegations of the socialist countries that came to Moscow. It was stressed at these meetings that in conditions of a complex international situation the strengthening of the fraternal countries' unity and cohesion and intensifying coordination of their actions on the international arena are acquiring a special significance.

I also remind you that, as Comrade Gorbachev noted, we should like a serious improvement in our relations with the People's Republic of China and consider that, given reciprocity, this is fully possible.

The Soviet Union has always supported the struggle of the people for liberation from colonial oppression. Our sympathy is still on the side of the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America which are struggling to strengthen their independence, for their social renewal. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's meetings with the leaders of a number of these regions' states were a visible manifestation of the Land of the Soviets' solidarity with this hard, persistent struggle. For example, during his meeting with Daniel Ortega, president of Nicaragua, Comrade Gorbachev confirmed the solidarity of the Soviet people with the Nicaraguan people, which is heroically defending its right to a free and independent development.

Our country was and is in favor of peaceful, mutually advantageous cooperation between all states based on equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs. Now, at a time when the threat of nuclear war is hanging over mankind, the sole rational way out of this situation is the attainment of accord on an immediate cessation of the arms race, first and foremost nuclear arms, on earth and on not allowing it in space. Such an accord would help progress toward a full ban and destruction of nuclear weapons and toward the elimination of the threat of nuclear war. The Soviet-American talks that have recently started in Geneva are devoted to a discussion of these problems, which are of major importance for all mankind. In this connection, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev again confirmed: We are not aspiring to achieve unilateral advantages and military superiority. We are proposing to freeze the nuclear arsenals and halt the further deployment of missiles. We want a real and big reduction in the accumulated weapons, and not the creation of more and more new weapons systems, whether in space or on earth.

Soviet Union will always reply to goodwill with goodwill, to trust with trust. However, we shall never forego the interests of our motherland and its allies.

In the seventies no little success was achieved in the relazation of international tension. The Soviet Union is ready to participate in the continuation of this positive process. A confirmation of the goodwill of the USSR has been th meetings just held by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev with state figures from many countries. Thus, for example, the exchange of views with President Pertini of Italy showed the closeness of Soviet and Italian attitudes concerning the urgent need for the states of East and West to undertake to eliminate the threat of nuclear war and strengthen peace.

Our party and state will continue to do everything to maintain peace. We, said Comrade Gorbachev, are again confirming our readiness to maintain good-neighborly relations with all countries on the principles of peaceful coexistence, and on the basis of equality and mutually advantegeous cooperation.

The right to live in conditions of peace and freedom is the main right of man. Our country has proceeded and proceeds from this in its foreign policy.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET UN SECRETARY GENERAL

LD140946 Moscow TASS in English 0938 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today had a conversation in the Kremlin with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Taking part in the conversation also was Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and foreign minister of the USSR.

Mikhail Gorbachev thanked Javier Perez de Cuellar for the respect he has shown to the memory of Konstantin Chernenko.

The following brief exchange of opinions mostly concerned the U.N. role in eliminating the threat of a nuclear war and promoting relations of peace and cooperation among nations. The Soviet side emphasized that the main thing now is to secure an end to the arms race, first of all the nuclear arms race, and prevent it from spreading to outer space. The United Nations can and should make a contribution of its own to accomplishing this task. It was reaffirmed that the Soviet Union, being a committed opponent of solving contentious international questions by force, always attached and attaches much significance to the United Nations as an effective instrument of peace and is prepared to take further steps for the just, democratic principles, on which the United Nations was based forty years ago, to become firmly established in the practice of international relations.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO RECEIVE BUSH, SHULTZ 13 MAR

LD132203 Moscow TASS in English 2155 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- On Wednesday Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received in the Kremlin, U.S. Vice-President George Bush. Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz participated in the conversation.

George Bush conveyed on behalf of the President and people of the USA deep condolences on the death of Konstantin Chernenko. Mikhail Gorbachev expressed gratitude for this.

The exchange of opinions between the sides touched upon key aspects of Soviet-U.S. relations and the world situation.

Having noted the importance of Soviet-U.S. relations, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee reiterated the Soviet Union's readiness, provided the U.S. side also was ready, to work in practice to improve them, which would be very important to the improvement of the international situation in general and to strengthening peace. It was at the same time stressed anew that the USSR would never foresake its lawful security interests or the interests of its allies.

George Bush for his part made a general statement that the U.S. Administration would like to have better relations with the Soviet Union.

The sides also touched upon questions of the Soviet-U.S. talks on space and nuclear weapons which had begun in Geneva.

TANJUG: Reagan Seeks Meeting

LD140015 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2313 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, March 13 (TANJUG) -- New leader of the Soviet party Mikhail Gorbachev this evening received U.S. Vice President George Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz.

First Soviet Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko was present at the meeting.

The talk focused on questions relating to the Soviet-U.S. relations and Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space weapons. Both sides stated their readiness to improve mutual relations. Bush delivered a letter to Gorbachev from (?U.S.) President Reagan expressing a wish to meet Gorbachev.

In his talk with journalists, Bush declined to reveal details of Reagan's message to Gorbachev.

Bush assessed the talks he had at the Kremlin positively and confirmed that besides questions concerning preparations for a possible U.S.-Soviet summit, the start of talks in Geneva was also discussed.

The hosts also confirmed that Gorbachev and Bush stated their governments' readiness to act towards an improvement of their mutual relations, but it was stressed that the "Soviet Union will never give up its legitimate interests when its own and its allies' security is in question. [no closing quotation marks as received]

CPUSA'S HALL, WINSTON SIGN BOOK OF CONDOLENCES

LD122239 Moscow TASS in English 1903 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] New York March 12 TASS -- Gus Hall, general secretary of the Communist Party of the USA, and Henry Winston, national chairman of the Communist Party of the USA, paid a visit to the USSR permanent representation to the U.N. and left a note in the book of condolences.

Konstantin Chernenko was a tried leader respected by all. He has played an outstanding role in building developed socialism in the Soviet Union, in the struggle for saving the world from a nuclear catastrophe, they wrote down in the book.

SOVIET, U.S. JURISTS DISCUSS ARMS CONTROL

PM121532 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting Ended"]

[Text] The third meeting between delegations of the Association of Soviet Jurists and the U.S. organization "Lawyers Alliance for Nuclear Arms Control" ended in Moscow 11 March. Questions of the participation of the two countries' jurists in improving Soviet-American relations on the basis of the principle of equality and identical security, prospects of the process of nuclear arms limitation and reduction, and other problems were discussed.

REAGAN'S FINAL TALKS WITH EGYPT'S MUBARAK CITED

LD131818 Moscow Televsion Service in Russian 1545 GMT 13 Mar 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] President Reagan has had a meeting in the White House with President Mubarak of Egypt. This meeting was the final point of the Egyptian president's official working visit to the United States. Judging by reports from Washington, during the talks, primary attention was focused on the Near East situation. Statements by representatives of the Washington administration confirm that the United States is still insisting on taking maximum account of the interests of Israel in the Near East. It can be recalled that soon the United States and Israel are to sign an agreement on allocating Tel Aviv another almost $1 billion in addition to the already provided nonreturnable appropriations.

U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S LEBANESE POLICY SCORED

LD140804 Moscow TASS in English 2121 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

The Washington supporters of Israeli aggressors have again prevented the U.N. Security Council from passing a resolution denouncing Tel Aviv's bloody policy in the south of Lebanon. The U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations vetoed the draft resolution, thus demonstrating full unanimity of official Washington with the Israeli policy of brigandage and terror against Arabs. The U.S. authorities' involvement in the criminal deeds of Israeli occupationists looks even more monstrous since what is under way is a preplanned extermination in cold blood of civilians in the south of Lebanon -- in Zrariya village, other settlements, which were almost razed to the ground. Women, old men and children were earlier exterminated in Palestinian Sabra and Shatilla camps with the same barbarity and brutality.

The outrage of Israeli military in the south of Lebanon and U.S. intensive attempts to whitewash Tel Aviv's criminal deeds at the U.N. Security Council show that the United States and Israel continue their agreed-upon policy within the framework of the notorious "strategic alliance". The blood of civilians is spilt, Israeli occupationists destroy whole villages with their inhabitants, and the United States does not see the ground for denouncing the bloody criminal deeds and pointedly uses veto at the Security Council.

The American ruling circles thereby bear moral-political responsibility for Israel's crimes before mankind. Moreover, the world sees that the United States, which shields and protects its strategic partner in every way, actually encourages Tel Aviv for new crimes. This happened more than once.

The United States and Israel again and again, resorting to force, create an atmosphere for imposing upon Arabs separate deals, Camp David type. In these conditions one most clearly sees the illusory character of the initiatives of President of Egypt Mubarak. A fair Middle East settlement with consideration of the interests of all sides cannot be attained under the U.S. and Camp David aegis. In Washington and Tel Aviv they recognise only their own, predatory, interests, and put them above all.

The Soviet Union counters this course of separate deals with its policy which rules out the use of force, the imposing of alien will on conflicting parties. The solution of the problem whould be of the political character, it should be comprehensive and should take into account the interests of all peoples of the region.

DEMCHENKO VIEWS U.S. NAVAL PRESENCE OFF LEBANON

PM121137 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 85 Second Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko "Commentator's Column": "Policy of Adventures"]

[Text] The ships of the U.S. Navy's 6th Fleet have been placed on the alert. The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Eisenhower, the missile-carrying cruiser Mississipi, and several destroyers have hastened to Lebanese shores. According to the CBS television company's evidence, they are to be stationed at a place "from which it is possible to deliver strikes, if that becomes necessary."

We thus have another manifestation of Washington's imperial ambitions and its readiness to directly interfere in the conflicts taking place in the Near East. U.S. authorities officially explain their actions by the threat allegedly looming over U.S. citizens and the general aggravation of the Near East situation, where tragic events have indeed taken place both in Lebanon and on the Iran-Iraq front. However, the facts show that this interference is merely complicating the situation in what is already a heated part of the world and is leading to even greater bloodshed.

It is well known that Lebanon's main political parties and groupings, despite the differences existing between them, are demanding the speediest withdrawal of the Israeli occupation forces from their country's territory. A guerrilla movement has been launched in south Lebanon. Under the onslaught of the Lebanese patriots and intensifying demands within its own country, Tel Aviv has been obliged to order its troops to leave Sidon, and now several eastern regions of Lebanon as well. But before leaving, the occupiers have unleashed a frenzied campaign of repressions against the Lebanese: Villages are being combed, houses are being blown up, and inhabitants are being shot. Israeli Defense Minister Rabin has said that the Israeli Army will continue its "iron fist" policy. Here is a new example: Israeli tanks and armored transport vehicles have stormed the South Lebanese settlement of Al-Zrariyah, which is under the control of the Lebanese Armed Forces. When they burst into the settlement, the goons carried out a bloodthirsty slaughter.

Twenty-four people were killed or wounded. Several houses were blown up. The Israelis have seized many village inhabitants and 10 Lebanese Army soldiers and taken to an unknown destination.

How has Washington responded to this tyranny? Its spokesman has threatened to veto any UN Security Council resolution denouncing Israel. Understandably, the U.S. stance has given rise to a wave of sharp protest in Lebanon and neighboring countries. After all, people there are well aware that the United States regards Israel as its strategic ally, is generously arming and financing it, and, if necessary, coming to its defense.

The new appearance of U.S. 6th Fleet warships off Lebanese shores is one more display of "muscle-flexing." It shows that Washington is continuing to resort to a policy of adventures in the Near East instead of adopting realistic and specific measures to restore peace and tranquillity in that long-suffering part of the world.

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON AFGHAN POLICY DENOUNCED

LD131001 Moscow TASS in English 1712 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 12 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

A fresh anti-Afghan political farce in the form of hearings on Soviet strategy in Afghanistan and the area adjoining it was held in U.S. Congress last Monday. The hearings were addressed by Jeanne Kirkpatrick, who is retiring from the post of United States permanent representative to the U.N., several Afghan counter-revolutionaries and some of the most reactionary American legislators. It is easy to guess from the composition of the participants in the hearings that they covered continued large-scale U.S. support for the gangs of mercenaries and bandits, perpetrating terror against the peaceful civilians of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and described for these crimes in Afghanistan as dushmans, i.e. enemies. [sentence as received]

As Jeane Kirkpatrick put it, Washington needs such a support for the Afghan mercenaries from the "moral and geopolitical viewpoints." Well, it is possible to look at "Washington's assistance" to hired murderers precisely from two viewpoints. Let us begin with the moral viewpoint: Over the years after the April Revolution (1978) a total of a million and a half people in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have completed course for the elimination of illiteracy and have learnt to read and write. Another more than 370 thousand people are attending such courses. More than 21 thousand skilled teachers are participating in the truly national education movement.

Over the same period, Afghan counter-revolutionaries backed by the CIA have destroyed by means of American weapons more than 1,800 schools and tortured to death hundreds of teachers-enlighteners. According to the logic of those in Washington who back and pay for the crimes of the counter-revolutionaries on the Afghan soil, it is quite "moral" to burn down schools and kill teachers.

CIA's mercenaries are particularly cruel in dealing with the peasants, who received quite substantial benefits from the revolution. More than three hundred thousand peasant households in Afghanistan received land from the state free. Eleven million peasants in the DRA have been freed by the state from the payment of age-old debts to the feudals, money-lenders, merchants and their ilk. The peasants are now using farm machinery and which they get from the government on loan and at reduced prices. This has never before happened in Afghanistan's history. Acting on Washington's orders counter-revolutionaries penetrate the territory of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with U.S.-made weapons in hand:

They are supplied from the USA with large quantities of guns, portable anti-aircraft rocket complexes, projectiles, 82-millimetre recoilless guns, 112-millimetre howitzers and other weapons of destruction. From Washington's viewpoint it is quite "moral" to turn the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan into an even more brutal and bloody one, which is done by the CIA.

Now as far as geopolitics is concerned, it is not for the first time that American figures are trying to ascribe their country's own global designs to the Soviet Union. Kirkpatrick was not above that either. But it is precisely the American strategists which contemplated swallowing Afghanistan and other areas neighboring on it found on the list of United States geopolitics. Suffice it to recall at least the notorious "arc" of former U.S. Presidential National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski. The arc started from the Horn of Africa and stretched almost down to Kampuchea embracing also the northern part of the Indian Ocean, in delimiting the so-called national interests of the USA. In January 1981 Henry Kissinger, who at that time was no longer U.S. secretary of state, proposed that American naval, air force and ground force contingents be stationed on a permanent basis along the perimeter of that arc. Two years later such geopolitical plans of the USA were given the form of the so-called "Central Command" (Centcom), which was formed on the basis of the interventionist "Rapid Deployment Force". The Centcom's area of action covers 19 sovereign states, including those along the "arc" line.

This is how matters stand, in real fact, with geopolitics, yet not of the Soviet Union, but of Washington, which proclaimed almost the whole world to be a sphere of its interests.

U.S. HOSTILITY TOWARD UN AID FOR DRA CRITICIZED

PM111752 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Yu. Vladimirov article under the rubric "Notes on International Themes": "Steering an Anti-Afghan Course"]

[Text] At a session of the UN Development Program [UNDP] Governing Council held a few days ago, the United States opposed aid to the DRA under this program. As is known, the UNDP deals with questions of technical assistance to developing countries irrespective of their political leanings. The U.S. stance is being interpreted within the international community as a manifestation of the Washington administration's general aggressive anti-Afghan course and of its desire to halt and reverse the progressive transformations in the DRA begun by the country's people after the 1978 April Revolution.

The facts indicate that Washington is constantly stepping up direct military aid to the counterrevolutionary gangs being infiltrated into Afghanistan. According to the U.S. press, the size of the injections of U.S. capital into the aggression against the DRA has increased sixfold since 1980 and totals $280 million this year. This not only means bigger consignments of weapons for the dushmans, it also makes it possible to deploy modern heavy antiaircraft guns on a large scale, for the first time, the newspaper NEWSDAY writes. In particular, it is planned to utilize the Swiss-made rapid-fire "Oerlikon" antiaircraft gun.

Pakistan serves as Washington's strongpoint in the undeclared war against People's Afghanistan. The CIA maintains many bases and camps on its territory for training, arming, and dispatching gangs of Afghan counterrevolutionaries. Those bases and camps are also being used for training a contingent of Ziaul Haq regime police reservists by U.S. instructors for use in the troubled Northwest Frontier Province. Pakistan also serves as a weapons, munitions, and military hardware supply base for the Afghan dushmans. According to the press, all the instruments of death are supplied through third countries to the Pakistani port of Karachi, and from there directly to the Afghan border, where caravans of saboteurs are assembled.

Weapons for bandits in northwest parts of the DRA are supplied from Pakistan via Iran. According to NEWSDAY, the possibility of dropping weapons by parachute from C-130 planes is also being studied.

However, as Selig Harrison, one of the leaders of the Carnegie Foundation, notes on the pages of NEWSDAY, DRA Armed Forces' actions in defense of their border are becoming increasingly effective. After visiting the DRA, Harrison came to the conclusion that the generous military assistance given by the United States to the Afghan rabble is pointless. In an article headlined "A Military Solution in Afghanistan Is Not Possible" he points out: The viability of the DRA is based on the fact that the positions of the ruling party, the PDPA, have strengthened and its influence is growing with each passing day. The transformations carried out by the DPDA are meeting with the understanding and support of the overwhelming majority of the population. The April Revolution has opened up the prospect of social renewal before the Afghan people, and for this reason, the number of supporters of people's power in Afghanistan is growing. The view, current in the West, of Kabul under siege, the population on the point of open revolt, and the regime constantly on the verge of collapse, does not correspond to reality, S. Harrison emphasizes.

But, as is obvious, Washington refuses to accept evidence that the Afghan people are fully determined to proceed along the path they opted for, and it is rejecting a political solution to the problems connected with the tension around Afghanistan.

The actions of the U.S. representative in the UNDP Governing Council are the latest illustration of the U.S. imperialist anti-Afghan policy.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET WITH PRC'S LI PENG

LD141134 Moscow TASS in English 1124 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev received today Li Peng, deputy premier of the Council of State of the People's Republic of China, who leads the Chinese Government delegation at Konstantin Chernenko's funeral. Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, foreign minister of the USSR, took part in the talks.

The Soviet side expressed appreciation to the Government of the PRC for the respect shown for the memory of Konstantin Chernenko.

There was an exchange of opinions in principle on matters relating to Soviet-Chinese relations. Mikhail Gorbachev reaffirmed that the Soviet side would like to have a serious improvement of relations with the People's Republic of China and that it considers this quite possible, provided there is reciprocity. Li Peng said on behalf of the Chinese leadership that the Chinese side has a similar desire. He expressed the hope that relations between two countries will be further developed in different fields.

IZVESTIYA ON PRC NPC DELEGATION'S LENINGRAD VISIT

PM121622 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by unnamed TASS correspondent under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Leningrad, 11 Mar -- The PRC NPC [National People's Congress] delegation headed by Zhang Chengxian, member of the NPC Standing Committee, yesterday continued its familiarization with the city on the Neva. The emissaries from the PRC had a talk at the gorispolkom. Gorispolkom Chairman V.Ya. Khodyrev told them about the city soviet's activity in developing the economy, science, and culture, increasing Leningraders' labor and social activeness, and improving the work of standing committees. The head of the delegation stressed that the city on the Neva was the cradle of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which illuminated the way to liberate humanity. Speaking about the courage and heroism shown by the Soviet people during the years of the last war, he termed as great the Leningraders' feat during the blockade years.

At Victory Square, the PRC parliamentarians viewed the monument to the heroic defenders of Leningrad and laid wreaths at its central sculptural group. They visited the Hermitage, the "Saint Isaac's Cathedral" Museum, and the Peter and Paul Fortress. The gorispolkom held a dinner to mark the delegation's visit.

PRAVDA CITES PRC LEADERS ON ECONOMIC REFORM

PM131206 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Final Session"]

[Text] Beijing, 12 Mar -- All Chinese newspapers publish a report on the final session of the All-China Conference on Questions of Science and Technology. The Chinese leaders took part in the conference.

The newspapers publish reports on the speech by Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the CPC Central Advisory Commission and chairman of the PRC Central Military Council, and the statement by Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee. It was emphasized in Deng Xiaoping's speech that the CPC Central Committee places particular requirements before scientific and technical circles and calls on them to turn "face to face with economic building and continue to resolve the problems of linking science and technology with the economy." He claimed that everything that is being done in China now is "the work of socialism." This, Deng Xiaoping said, must not be ignored in propaganda work. As for the country's modernization, he went on, we are implementing an open policy of reviving the economy by means of reforms, but its goal still is to develop a socialist economy.

Justifying the decision to develop "an individual economy and allow foreign capital inside the country,"Deng Xiaoping pointed out that ultimately the socialist system of ownership in the country still remains the main one.

Speaking of the "need to adhere firmly to and implement the fundamental principles of socialism," Deng Xiaoping noted that some people do fear that China may become capitalist. According to him, it cannot be claimed that these fears are groundless. He also noted that "distortions and dangerous actions" are allowed to occur in the process of economic reform, and that the mass news media must engage in explanatory work and draw attention to the danger and impermissibility of spreading bourgeois ideology.

WEEKLY CITES PRC PRESS ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PM081644 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 9, Feb 85 (Signed to Press 25 Feb 85) p 22

[TASS report: "PRC Economic Problems"]

[Text] A Chinese national conference in Tianjin convened by the PRC State Council was devoted to determining the main avenues and tasks of economic work in the current year. The reports by Lu Dong, chairman of the PRC State Economic Commission, and his deputy, Yuan Bachua, while making a generally positive assessment of the main trends of economic activity in 1984, pointed out a number of negative phenomena hindering the development of Chinese industry under the conditions of the economic reform that is currently under way. They cited in particular the "chaotic price rises," the "irregular allocation of bonuses," and the insufficient attention being devoted to training qualified cadres ready to implement the reforms and to use the "market method" in running the economy. The conference noted the presence of "ideological problems arising during the reform" and called for "real implementation of adopted political directives."

Chinese press articles appearing after the conference are devoting attention to certain negative consequences and difficulties arising during the transformations in the economy. The newspaper JINGJI RIBAO, for instance, reported that only 15 percent of China's large- and medium-size enterprises are "sufficiently viable."

The journal HONGQI, demanding that the "irrational growth in consumption funds" be controlled, wrote that the country's population is concerned at the growth in prices but at the same time there have been arbitrary increases in various grants and payments, which are not backed up by increases in production and labor productivity efficiency. This situation, the journal believes, is leading to inflation and the exacerbation of discrepancies in the economy and may "cause chaos in economic life."

GORBACHEV, MONGOLIA'S BATMONH CONFER 13 MAR

LD132227 Moscow TASS in English 2209 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- On Wednesday Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting with Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic. Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Konstantin Rusakov, a secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the conversation. Mikhail Gorbachev expressed gratitude for condolences conveyed by Jambyn Batmonh from the Communists and all the working people of Mongolia on the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

The sides reiterated the constant and principled line of the CPSU and the MPRP for the further strengthening of traditional friendship and for the extension of comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and Mongolia. In this context they stressed the importance of the consistent implementation of the accords reached at the Soviet-Mongolian summit talks in Moscow in October 1984.

Exchanging opinion on foreign policy, Mikhail Gorbachev and Jambyn Batmonh stated that the USSR and Mongolia were acting unanimously in every area of international affairs, including struggle for peace security and goodneighbourliness in Asia. The meeting passed in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

DPRK'S KIM IL-SONG VISITS USSR EMBASSY 12 MAR

LD130517 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1610 GMT 12 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The USSR Embassy in the DPRK received a visit today from Kim Il-song, secretary general of the DPRK, and other party and state figures of the Republic. They voiced their profound condolences on the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, honored his memory with a minute's silence, and signed the book of condolence. [Video shows Kim and others standing with heads bowed; camera shows photograph, of Konstantin Chernenko surrounded by flowers, North Korean leaders are then shown seated, signing the book of condolence.]

JAPANESE CP DELEGATION VISITS 6-11 MARCH

PM121432 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Japanese Communists in the USSR"]

[Text] A group of Japanese Communist Party (JCP) workers headed by Y. Komori, member of the JCP Central Committee Secretariat, was in the Soviet Union 6-11 March at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee in Moscow. The JCP representatives delivered reports to the Soviet scientific community on their party's activity in defense of peace and against the nuclear arms race. At the CPSU Central Committee International Department, there was an exchange of opinions with the Japanese comrades on questions of practical cooperation between the two parties in the struggle to prevent a nuclear war and for the complete prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. The delegation visited Leningrad, where it familiarized itself with the city's historical and revolutionary monuments.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET WITH DRA'S BABRAK KARMAL

LD141056 Moscow TASS in English 1051 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA), in the Kremlin today. Mr Karmal had arrived here to attend the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko. Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, took part in the meeting.

The main questions of Soviet-Afghan relations and of the situation around Afghanistan were touched upon during a comradely conversation. The two sides resolutely condemned the continuing aggressive actions by the outside forces against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and emphasized the Afghan people's inalienable right to build their life as they deem necessary. The participants in the conversation expressed conviction that an end to the military intervention and to any other interference from the outside in the affairs of people's Afghanistan is one of major prerequisites for the strengthening of peace and stability in Asia.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the progressive development of friendly relations between the CPSU and the PDPA, between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and reaffirmed the striving for all-round strengthening and deepening of these relations.

GORBACHEV, INDIA'S GANDHI DISCUSS RELATIONS

PM141356 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Conversation Between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi"]

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, 13 March, had in the Kremlin a conversation with Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India. The conversation was attended by Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

The Soviet side expressed gratitude to the head of government and to for the respects paid by them to the memory of Konstantin Chernenko.

In the subsequent conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding, the sides noted with satisfaction the high level, dynamism and diversified character of the fruitfully developing Soviet-Indian relations and voiced a mutual desire for their constant strengthening on the basis of the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India.

Gandhi Comments on Meeting

LD140752 Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] New Delhi March 14 TASS -- "My meeting with the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev was a very constructive, very cordial and friendly one," the Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi said to a TASS correspondent upon his return to Delhi from Moscow today.

He was leading the government delegation of the Republic of India at the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko, the outstanding leader of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. "I feel confident after this meeting that relations of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and India will continue developing and will be very good," the prime minister said.

Rajiv Gandhi said he was greatly impressed by Mikhail Gorbachev's speeches both at the plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and at the funeral meeting in the Red Square. "Those were very positive statements, specifically, on foreign policy matters," he said. The general secretary's attitude to the disarmament problem, one of the most challenging problems in the world today, is very positive, he went on, and "we are hopeful that things will move in the right direction."

Rajiv Gandhi said he was greatly moved by Mikhail Gorbachev's warmth and amiability. This is a man with a clear view of perspective, he said.

At the Delhi International Airport Palam the prime minister of India and members of his party were met by members of the Indian cabinet of ministers.

PAKISTAN'S ZIAUL HAQ MEETS WITH GORBACHEV

BK131719 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and other visiting dignitaries had an opportunity to meet the new Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, in the Kremlin. The president conveyed his condolences and had a brief exchange of views with the new Soviet leader. The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Gromyko, were also present.

BANGLADESH ENVOY GIVES USSR ARMS DOCUMENT

LD121155 Moscow TASS in English 1954 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 11 TASS -- The Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the USSR Syed Najmuddin Hashim as handed over for keeping to the Government of the USSR documents on the joining by the People's Republic of Bangladesh of the treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and underwater of August 5, 1963, as well as the convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of bacteriological (biological) and toxic weapons and on their destruction of April 10, 1972. The documents have been received by the Secretary General of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs Yuriy Fokin.

GORBACHEV HOLDS TALKS WITH SRV'S TRUONG CHINH

LD141001 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Today Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting with Truong Chinh, member of the Politburo of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, and chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Konstantin Viktorovich Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, also took part in the conversation. Comrade Gorbachev expressed gratitude to the Communists and all working people of Vietnam for their condolences on the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Both sides noted with satisfaction the unshakeable cohesion of the CPSU and the Vietnamese Communist Party, of the Soviet Union and the SRV, of the Soviet and Vietnamese peoples. They reaffirmed their mutual wish to steadily develop and strengthen Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and all-around cooperation.

During a discussion of international issues, both sides' determination to continue actively cooperating with each other in the interests of preserving peace, strengthening peoples' security, and eliminating the threat of nuclear war was stressed. The Soviet side expressed solidarity with the struggle of the Vietnamese people against the intrigues of imperialism and those who abet it and for the transformation of Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and goodneighborliness. The meeting was held in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and complete identity of views.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET LAOS' SOUPHANOUVONG

LD141026 Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has met today with Souphanouvong, member of the Political Bureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, president of the Supreme People's Assembly of Laos.

Taking part in the conversation were Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Khamtai Siphandon, member of the Political Bureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, secretary of the party Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, national defence minister of Laos.

Gratitude has been expressed from the Soviet side to the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos, the people of Laos for condolences over the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

In the course of the conversation mutual striving was expressed to develop further all-round Soviet-Laotian cooperation, to fight persistently for lessening international tensions and strengthening peace. In that connection Mikhail Gorbachev expressed firm support for the constructive stand of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, which declares together with Socialist Vietnam and People's Kampuchea for improving the situation in South-east Asia, for creating there a zone of peace, stability and goodneighborliness.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and cordiality.

LPRP ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON PARTY ANNIVERSARY

PM121320 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Resolution Adopted"]

[Text] Vientiane, 11 Mar -- The Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee Secretariat has adopted a resolution on celebrations to mark the 30th anniversary of the LPRP's creation.

The celebration of this portentous date, the document stresses, will take place under the sign of the further rallying of the entire Lao people around their combat vanguard -- the LPRP -- and the strengthening of all-around relations of indissoluble friendship, cooperation, and combat solidarity with the peoples of the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and the other fraternal socialist community countries.

Under the LPRP's leadership, the Lao people have made weighty achievements in building the foundations of a socialist society and overcoming the consequences of many years of war. In the years of people's power, the national economy has developed confidently, steady growth of agricultural production has been achieved, and a number of major industrial enterprises have been commissioned. Socialist transformations have been launched at a fast pace. A large proportion of the Lao peasantry is now united in cooperatives and production teams in the countryside. The Lao people can be proud of their achievements in cultural building; illiteracy among the population has been eliminated and a widespread system of national education and health care has been set up.

The Lao people's successes would have been still more significant were it not for subversive actions by the forces of imperialism and international reaction which are trying to destroy the gains of the Lao revolution and break the Lao people. In the face of dangerous enemy schemes, Lao working people are fully resolved to reliably defend the motherland's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The LPRP Central Committee appealed to all Lao Communists and the entire Lao peple to spread competition in honor of the glorious anniversary of the party's formation and to greet the portentous date with new labor victories.

PRK'S HENG SAMRIN PRAISES USSR 'SUPPORT,' POLICY

PM120938 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Following the Path of Socialism"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 8 Mar -- The Cambodian people are marching confidently along the path of building the foundations of a socialist society, reliably defending their motherland's sovereignty and territorial integrity, Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State, has said. He was receiving a delegation from the Vietnam Women's Union which is on a visit here.

The achievements of the people's Cambodia are inextricably linked to the constant aid and support from the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and the other fraternal countries of the socialist community, the PRK leader noted. We will continue to make every effort to further consolidate these all-around relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation. The Kampuchean people fully support the peace-loving constructive policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries aimed at strengthening peace and the peoples' security.

TASS CITES PRK'S HUN SEN ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD140851 Moscow TASS in English 1211 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Phnom Penh March 13 TASS -- In the international arena the People's Republic of Kampuchea pursues a consistent peaceloving foreign policy course directed at solving all outstanding issues by way of constructive equal talks, strengthening peace and international security, further consolidating all-round relations of inviolable friendship and spirited solidarity with the Soviet Union, Vietnam, other fraternal countries of the socialist community, it was stated by member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea Hun Sen, when speaking to journalists here.

When speaking about the situation in Southeast Asia the Kampuchean leader noted that a threat to peace and security in that area is posed by the belligerent policy of the forces of imperialism and international reaction which are trying to undermine the revolutionary gains of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, to provoke a confrontation between countries of Indochina and ASEAN.

The liquidation of Pol-Potists as a military and political force, elimination of the danger of a return by the regime of genocide in Kampuchea is the main condition of solving the so called "Kampuchean problem". The full safeguarding of the PRK's security creates conditions for continuing the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers who are fulfilling with honour their internationalist duty in respect of the Kampuchean people, for the holding of general elections on Kampuchean soil under international control.

All Kampucheans, regardless of their political past, who have parted company with the Pol Potists and recognise the Constitution of the PRK could take part in them.

Hun Sen expressed satisfaction with the results of his meeting with the Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden and spoke highly of the position taken by the Australian Government which comes out for the removal of the Pol-Potists from the political scene.

The Kampuchean people is confidently advancing along the road of national rebirth, overcoming difficulties caused by the long war and rule by Pol Pot's regime of genocide. We are fully resolved to reliably protect the country's freedom and independence and worthily repulse the enemies of the Kampuchean revolution, he said.

CAMBODIA DENIES VIOLATING THAI SOVEREIGNTY

PM111049 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Refutation of Slanderers"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 10 Mar -- Cambodia's SPK news agency has issued a denial of the slanderous allegations of the Bangkok mass media to the effect that subunits of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army with the support of Vietnamese volunteers have violated Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

These stories are being disseminated to mislead the international public and to justify the mounting military aid from the Thai authorities and forces of international reaction to anti-Cambodian groupings, the statement notes. An attempt is thus being made to save the gangs of traitors to the Cambodian people, who have suffered enormous losses under the strikes of the PRK Armed Forces.

PLANS FOR THAI ARMS STOCKPILES 'DESTABILIZING'

PM111321 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Boris Barakhta "Commentator's Column": "Adding Fuel to the Fire"]

[Text] The U.S. and Thai military departments, the Bangkok newspaper NATION REVIEW has reported, are examining the question of creating stockpiles of weapons and military hardware for the Pentagon on Thai territory "for use in an emergency." Citing informed circles, the newspaper notes that this dangerous step, fraught with serious consequences for the situation in the region, was discussed at a bilateral consultation in Washington with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State P. Wolfowitz and U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense R. Armitage.

The aim of this provocative enterprise is obvious. After its defeat in Indochina, U.S. imperialism did not abandon its plans to penetrate Southeast Asia, which it declared to be a so-called "sphere of vital interest" for the United States. It dislikes the development in that part of the world of a positive trend aimed at seeking the solution of problems at the negotiating table in a spirit of good-neighborliness and mutual understanding.

The United States is using the so-called "Cambodian problem" and the myth of a Vietnamese "theat" to Thailand as a pretext for interfering in sovereign states' affairs. U.S. military assistance to Bangkok grows annually and joint maneuvers are held regularly. The forces of expansionism and hegemonism are involved in maintaining the tense situation on the Thai-Cambodian border. The othey day, as reported by SPK, Thai artillery subjected a number of population centers on PRK territory to a massive bombardment of shells containing poisonous gas. And now Washington would like to store U.S. weapons in Thailand.

The implementation of the Pentagon's latest dangerous plan, the countries of the region consider, will have a dangerous destabilizing effect on the situation in Indochina and will add fuel to the continuing armed provocations against the PRK. The fraternal countries of Southeast Asia, however, propose a realistic program to resolve the existing problems, namely, the complete removal of Pol Pot's followers from the political arena, a halt to support for and assistance to Khmer reactionary gangs entrenched on Thai territory, and the holding of constructive talks designed to establish an atmosphere of peace, good-neighborliness, and cooperation in Southeast Asia. The search for a political settlement can and must take place at the negotiating table rather than by means of militarization and the fueling of the explosive situation there.

GREETINGS SENT TO AUSTRALIA ON NATIONAL DAY

PM111459 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Congratulations on the Holiday"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent Sir Ninian M. Stephan, governor general of Australia, a telegram conveying congratulations and wishes to the Australian people on Australia Day -- the country's national holiday. The telegram expresses the hope that Soviet-Australian relations will continue to develop for the good of the two countries' peoples and in the interests of peace and international cooperation.

In a telegram addressed to K.U. Chernenko, the governor general of Australia expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of his country's people and on his own behalf for the congratulations and good wishes.

GORBACHEV MEETS WITH SFRY'S DJURANOVIC, SUKRIJA

PM141355 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 2

[TASS Report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Talks With V. Djuranovic and A. Sukrija"]

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev met on 13 March with President of the Collective Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Veselin Djuranovic and Chairman of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Ali Sukrija.

The Soviet side expressed gratitude for the condolences over Konstantin Chernenko's death conveyed on behalf of the Collective Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, the Communists, and all working people of Yugoslavia.

An exchange of opinions was held on questions of the development of Soviet-Yugoslav relations and on topical international problems. Both sides reaffirmed mutual readiness for further deepening all-around cooperation between the USSR and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the CPSU and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia on the basis of the joint documents and accords.

The two sides emphasized the firm determination of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia to exert persistent efforts to prevent a thermonuclear catastrophe and to strengthen peace and security in Europe.

The meeting was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Taking part in the talk were CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko; Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Rusakov; Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Raif Dizdarevic; and Yugoslavia's Ambassador to the USSR Milojko Drulovic.

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES SFRY'S FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER

PM141007 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received M. Bojanic, SFRY federal secretary for foreign trade, on 13 March.

During the friendly conversation there was an exchange of opinions on questions of further developing trade and economic relations between the USSR and SFRY.

M. Drulovic, SFRY ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET UK'S THATCHER, HOWE

PM141400 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Talks With M. Thatcher"]

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, 13 March had in the Kremlin a conversation with British Prime Minister Margare Thatcher. Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Geoffrey Howe, minister of foreign and commonwealth affairs of Great Britain took part in the conversation.

Margaret Thatcher expressed condolences on behalf of the Government and people of Great Britain and from her person on the death of Konstantin Chernenko. Mikhail Gorbachev voiced gratitude for this.

In a brief exchange of opinions the sides touched in principle upon some international problems and also upon questions of Soviet-British bilateral relations.

The Soviet side stressed the imperative need to take measures to remove the threat of nuclear war and in this context the importance of preventing the arms race in space and terminating it on earth. It is this objective, Mikhail Gorbachev stressed, that was and will continue to be pursued by the foreign policy activities of the Soviet state. Britain could also make a contribution towards changing the world situation for the better.

Both sides voiced their readiness to promote political dialogue and to fill with concrete contents relations between the USSR and Britain in trade, economic, scientific, technologies, cultural and other fields.

Talks Detailed

LD132104 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 2020 GMT 13 Mar 85

[By David Healy, PA political staff]

[Text] Mrs Thatcher said tonight she had almost an hour of "very good and useful" talks in the Kremlin with the new Soviet President [as received] Mikhail Gorbachev. the two leaders discussed America's star wars research and disarmament when they met after the funeral of President Chernenko.

Later, at a press conference, the prime minister said she looked forward to building "a good and frank relationship with Mr Grobachev, with the aim of achieving a safer and more secure world."

Mrs Thatcher said that after comparing the speeches of the new Soviet leader and President Reagan, it was clear that the two men had the same objectives -- the elimination of nuclear weapons, no wish for superiority, and mutual respect. She said she told Mr Gorbachev about the West's deep and genuine desire to achieve security at a much lower level of weaponry.

She told him that President Reagan did not see research on star wars as a way of achieving advantage over the Soviet Union. Research was permitted under the 1972 treaty between the U.S. and Russia, but any deployment of the new weaponry would have to be negotiated. "I told Mr Gorbachev that point was explicitly confirmed by President Reagan when I saw him in February," Mrs Thatcher said.

Turning to the arms control talks which opened in Geneva this week, the prime minister said she had expressed the hope that these would be successful.

She believed Mr Gorbachev was also anxious that the talks should succeed. "I believe the whole world would dearly love to see security maintained at a lower level of armaments based on mutual respect and security," Mrs Thatcher said.

"It will be part of the wish of the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union to keep in touch and have a dialogue which we believe is essential to creating trust and confidence which in turn is vital to reaching arms agreement. A great deal has happened, much of it tragic, in the 12 months or so since I was in Moscow but I now look forward to building on the basis of a good, and frank relationship with Mr Gorbachev, with the aim of achieving a safer and more secure world."

Asked whether after today's talks she stood by her previous opinion that Gorbachev was a man she liked and could do business with, the prime minister replied simply "yes."

"We briefly touched on relations between our two countries and our wish to do more business with the Soviet Union," Mrs Thatcher said.

She hoped to see more cultural and scientific contacts as well as trading links "so our two nations can achieve a better understanding. In this context we look forward to Mr Gromyko's visit to Britain this summer."

The prime minister's meeting with the new Soviet leader began some 40 minutes behind schedule and British officials said Mr Gorbachev was talking much longer with visiting leaders than originally planned.

Mrs Thatcher, who had earlier met U.S. Vice President George Bush, said she did not raise the possibility of a superpower summit with either man. Mr Bush had arrived in Moscow reportedly carrying an invitation from President Reagan to a summit.

The prime minister who is flying back home later tonight, also had talks today with President Zia of Pakistan, President Machel of Mozambique, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET WITH MITTERRAND, DUMAS

PM141402 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 2

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, 13 March had a meeting in the Kremlin with French President Francois Mitterrand and conferred with him. Andrey Gromyko, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Roland Dumas, minister of external relations of France, took part in the conversation.

Francois Mitterrand expressed on behalf of the French people and from his person deep condolences over the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

Mikhail Gorbachev said that tht Soviet Union viewed the respects paid by France to the memory of Konstantin Chernenko as evidence of traditional sentiments of friendship and affection between the peoples of the two countries.

Having noted the re-invigoration of Soviet-French relations during the recent period, Mikhail Gorbachev and Francois Mitterrand spoke in favour of the continuation and extension of political dialogue between the USSR and France as an inseparable factor of today's international realities having a considerable influence on the formation of the political climate in Europe and elsewhere. Both countries, as the exchange of opinion on a number of international questions confirmed, stand for a return to the policy of detente, for halting the arms race and for the maintenance of the balance of forces at the lowest possible level.

Mitterrand on Talks

LD131943 Moscow TASS in English 1929 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- Paying tribute to the memory of Konstantin Chernenko, we used the opportunity to carry on traditional personal contacts with Soviet leaders, French President Francois Mitterrand said today before boarding his plane to leave the USSR. The conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev was very useful and instructive, he said. We touched upon key aspects of the present-day international situation and relations between our countries. We drew the conclusion that the Soviet Union will continue its policy of detente and that, as before, it is seeking more extensive relations with France, the president said.

AFP Cites Mitterrand

HK140150 Hong Kong AFP in English 0129 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, March 14 (AFP) -- French President Francois Mitterrand described new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev last night as a "calm, sharp, subtle" man who approaches problems "straightforwardly" and speaks in a "direct, precise, interesting tone." However, noted Mr. Mitterrand, yesterday's "relatively brief" meeting was not enough to judge Mr. Gorbachev's personality, much less his intenions.

Mr. Mitterrand made his statements after a 45-minute meeting with Mr. Gorbachev, following the funeral of former Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko, who died Sunday.

Mr. Mitterrand said his talks with Mr. Gorbachev had included the disarmament issues, including the controversial U.S. space-based anti-nuclear missile program, commonly known as star wars. He said he thought Mr. Gorbachev was ready to conduct an "audacious" foreign policy, particularly by favoring detente, but stressed that Soviet policy depended only partially on personalities.

Mr. Mitterrand left immediately for Paris, where he arrived late Wednesday night. The Soviet news agency TASS said Mr. Gorbachev had accepted Mr. Mitterrand's invitation to visit France, but without setting a date. Mr. Mitterrand visited the Soviet Union in July 1984.

BOOK OF CONDOLENCES SIGNED AT EMBASSY IN PARIS

Prime Minister Fabius

LD122343 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Paris March 12 TASS -- Laurent Fabius, prime minister of France, visited today the USSR Embassy and on behalf of the government expressed sorrow in connection with the death of Konstantin Chernenko. He made the following entry in the mourning book: "I offer my condolences and express hope for the development of a dialogue between our two nations in the interests of peace".

French CP Delegation

LD121915 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] French Communist Party delegation headed by Georges Marchais, general secretary, visited the Soviet Embassy in France. This is what he said in an interview for Soviet radio:

[Begin Marchais recording in French with superimposed Russian narration] French Communists, Georges Marchais says, express to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and all the Soviet people, their most profound condolences over the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. At the same time, we welcome the decision of the CPSU Central Committee plenum that has just been held on Comrade Gorbachev's election to the office of your party's general secretary.

I am sure, Comrade Marchais goes on, that he will worthily continue the cause of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, a cause that his predecessors have led. I am also sure that Comrade Gorbachev will continue to pursue the Soviet Union's peace policy. I wish him great success in his work.

For my part, I would like to note that the problem of ensuring peace depends on the broad mobilization of all the antiwar forces of the planet. French Communists will do everything expected of them to assist this mobilization in France. [end recording]

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO HOLD MEETING WITH FRG'S KOHL

LD140901 Moscow TASS in English 0854 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev has met and talked in the Kremlin with FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl. The meeting was attended by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, W. Schaeuble, federal minister, head of the Federal Chancellor's Office, and A. Meyer-Landrut, secretary of state to the FRG Foreign Ministry.

On behalf of the Soviet Government Mikhail Gorbachev expressed gratitude for respect to the memory of Konstantin Chernenko, which was displayed by the Government and people of the FRG.

A brief exchange of views was held on key issues of Soviet-West German relations, the situation in Europe and in the world.

Both sides have expressed the wish to develop further mutually beneficial cooperation in various fields. The Soviet side has reaffirmed the USSR's principled policy of developing relations with the FRG on the basis of the Moscow treaty, respect for the existing territorial-political realities, due consideration for each other's security interests. It has been stressed at the same time that of decisive significance for a further development of relations between the USSR and the FRG will be what policy the FRG will pursue on matters concerning the security interests of the Soviet Union and its allies.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET WITH ITALY'S PERTINI

PM141403 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Talks With the President of Italy"]

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev had a meeting in the Kremlin 13 March with President of Italy Alessandro Pertini. Taking part in the talk were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko and Foreign Minister of Italy Giulio Andreotti.

Alessandro Pertini expressed on his own behalf and on behalf of the people of Italy deep condolences over Konstantin Chernenko's death.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed gratitude for the respect, shown in Italy, for Konstantin Chernenko's memory.

Reaffirmed during the talk was the mutual intention, expressed in the course of the recent Soviet-Italian negotiations in Rome, to consistently broaden bilateral cooperation including political contacts so as to promote restoration of detente in Europe, reduction in the level of military confrontation in the continent, growth of mutual confidence between states.

The exchange of opinions testified to the proximity of the stands of the Soviet Union and Italy as concerns the pressing need of undertaking reciprocal efforts of Eastern and Western states in order to remove the threat of a nuclear war, to strengthen peace.

Certain other international problems of interest for the Soviet Unoin and Italy were touched upon.

ITALIAN LEADERS REACT TO GORBACHEV SPEECH

Sandro Pertini

AU132005 Rome ANSA in English 1956 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] (ANSA) Moscow March [no date as received] -- Soviet party secretary Mikhail Gorbachev "struck me profoundly and favorably because he spoke of detente and peace", Italian head-of-state Sandro Pertini said here today after the funeral ceremony for Gorbachev's predecessor, Konstantin Chernenko, in Red Square this morning.

Pertini arrived here last night, with Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti. After the funeral, he had a brief meeting with the new Soviet leader as part of the courtesy meetings the Soviet leader had with all the foreign delegations in the St. George Hall at the Kremlin.

"He promises well, it is very comforting," 88-year-old Pertini said of the new Soviet party secretary. If this is the path he has chosen, I'm with him". [quotation marks as received]

Pertini and Gorbachev met informally in Rome last year. The Soviet leader, then number-two in the Kremlin hierarchy, was in Rome for the funeral of late Italian Communist Party Secretary Enrico Berlinguer. Pertini said that, on that occasion, Gorbachev struck him as someone with "an extraordinary humanity, with an open way of speaking and insisting on the problem of detente."

"The same words he said to me then in a private form he has now repeated officially", Pertini added. "This comformts me deeply because I am for peace".

Pertini then offered his regrets for interrupting his state visit to Argentina and Brazil to come to Moscow and promised he would make a "personal, not an official state journey" to the university of Cordoba "to meet the students, an experience I always enjoy immensely."

Alessandro Natta

AU131955 Rome ANSA in English 1930 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] (ANSA) Moscow, March 13 -- The election of 54-year-old Mikhail Gorbachev as new Soviet party secretary will have no influence on relations between the Italian and Soviet parties, the Italian [Communist] Party's Secretary Alessandro Natta said here today.

Chatting with reporters, Natta added that he sees Gorbachev's election as positive. "His speech today was very important because it does not contain polemics with the United States over the star-wars proposal", Natta said. "He made a precise re-affirmation of the Soviet position on the problem of armaments, but avoiding an accentuation of the polemic", Natta noted.

He also said the Italian party has no plans to establish "preferential relations" with any leftwing party in Western Europe, but wants "relations with all progressive forces".

"Among the parties of the European left, we are the strongest, but we are not presumptuous," he siad. "Moreover, leftwing parties, whether nor not they are in power, can currently permit themselves few presumptions".

On relations with the Soviet party, he said they were "as equals, but we do not think we have to justify or criticize on principle everything the Soviet party does".

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO RECEIVE AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT

LD141151 Moscow TASS in English 1141 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has met and talked in the Kremlin today with Federal President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger of the Republic of Austria. Taking part in the meeting were Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, and Leopold Graz, Austria's foreign minister.

Rudolf Kirchschlaeger conveyed on behalf of the people of the Republic of Austria and on his personal behalf deep condolences over the death of Konstantin Chernenko. Mikhail Gorbachev expressed gratitude for the condolences.

Both sides have expressed satisfaction with the stable character of the Soviet-Austrian relations and reaffirmed readiness for their further development in various fields.

In discussing international issues, Mikhail Gorbachev and Rudolf Kirchschlaeger were unanimous that the main objective, to whose resolution the efforts of all states should be directed, is to put an end to the arms race, eliminate the threat of war, preserve and strengthen peace, restore the climate of detente and fruitful international cooperation.

GROMYKO RECEIVES BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

LD141137 Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received Leo Tindemans, Belgain minister for external relations, at his request in the Kremlin today.

On behalf of the Belgian Government Leo Tindemans expressed deep condolences on the death of Konstantin Chernenko. Andrey Gromyko thanked [him] for the sympathy expressed.

The question of deployment of U.S. missiles in some West European countries was touched upon during an exchange of views on international problems. Leo Tindemans set out the USA's and its NATO allies' known position on this question. In this connection Andrey Gromyko emphasized that continuation of the deployment of U.S. missiles only increases the war threat and runs counter to the interests of European states.

The Soviet Union comes out not only against a further rise in the level of nuclear confrontation in the European Continent but also in favour of lowering it radically. To begin with, the USSR suggests that both sides stop taking the corresponding steps.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET WITH SPAIN'S GONZALEZ

LD141257 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] A conversation took place in the Kremlin today between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR minister of foreign affairs, also took part.

Gonzalez on behalf of the Spanish Government and on his own behalf, expressed profound condolences at the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev expressed gratitude for their condolences.

In an exchange of views on the state and prospects of Soviet-Spanish relations, the sides expressed satisfaction with the expansion of bilateral cooperation in many spheres, which benefits the Soviet and Spanish people. Having confirmed the accords reached during the recent Soviet-Spanish talks in Madrid, the sides came out in favor of the further development of cooperation between the USSR and Spain, including political contacts and consultations. The willingness of both sides to facilitate the stepping-up of efforts aimed at halting the arms race on earth and averting it in space, eliminating the threat of nuclear war, and restoring the policy of relaxing international tension, was confirmed.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO RECEIVE FINNISH PRESIDENT

LD140920 Moscow TASS in English 0906 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 14 TASS -- The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev, received President Mauno Koivisto of the Republic of Finland in the Kremlin today. Mr. Koivisto had arrived in Moscow to attend the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko. Taking part in the conversation was Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed cordial gratitude to the head of the friendly Finnish state and to the people of Finland for the deep condolences on the heavy loss suffered by the Soviet people.

During the conversation, there was an exchange of views on some questions of Soviet-Finnish relations as well as on topical international problems of mutual interest. Mikhail Gorbachev emphasized that the Soviet leadership will continue to devote special attention to strengthening goodneighborliness and mutual trust with Finland. Confidence was expressed on both sides that Soviet-Finnish relations will continue to develop steadily and progressively in the direction determined by the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, for the good of the peoples of the two countries, in the interests of peace and international security.

IRAN'S VELAYATI SIGNS CONDOLENCE BOOK AT EMBASSY

LD131838 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran March 13 TASS -- Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ali Akhar Velayati visited the Embassy of the USSR in Tehran and on behalf of the Government and the people of Iran expressed condolences over Konstantin Chernenko's death. The tendency for broadening friendly and good-neighborly relations between Iran and the Soviet Union will continue developing in the interests of both countries. This is the entry which he made to the condolences book.

LEBANON'S KARAMI THANKS GORBACHEV FOR SUPPORT

NC131753 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] According to a message we just received from the NNA representative in Moscow, Prime Minister Rashid Karami has reiterated the gratitude of the Lebanese people and Government to Mikhail Gorbachev, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet [as heard] and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, for the various positions adopted by the Soviet Union in support of Lebanon. This support has centered on Lebanon's struggle for liberation from Zionist occupation.

Gorbachev, who was accepting condolences on the death of President Chernenko, said the Soviet Union shares the Lebanese people's sufferings under Israeli occupation. He repeated his country's support for the Lebanese people's just struggle to free their land from the Zionist invaders and to restore legitimate authority throughout Lebanon.

Prime Minister Karami and his accompanying delegation took part in the funeral of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko. The ceremony was held at 1300 Moscow time in Red Square.

Prime Minister Karami is scheduled to meet with Soviet Premier Tikhinov at noon tomorrow to discuss the situation in Lebanon and in the region and to review bilateral relations. Prime Minister Karami is expected to return to Beirut tomorrow evening, barring any changes in his itinerary.

GORBACHEV MEETS ISRAELI CP LEADER WILNER

TA131631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] In the course of a reception in honor of the heads of the foreign delegations, which followed Chernenko's funeral, Gorbachev talked to RAKAH [New Communist List] Secretary General and Knesset member Me'ir Wilner. Journalist Leon Zehavi has told the Voice of Israel that their meeting was cordial and that Gorbachev told Wilner he remembers him well from party conventions in Moscow.

ISRAEL TOUGHENING 'TERROR' POLICY IN LEBANON

LD130717 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 12 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov:

The barbarous raid carried out by the Israeli military against the south Lebanese village of Al-Zrariya on Monday is fresh evidence of the toughening of terror of the occupiers seeking to maintain their grip on southern Lebanon.

The village, already attacked by Israeli soldiers on February 21, was to live through yet another tragedy. At dawn, Israeli armoured units blocked all roads leading to Al-Zrariya, the region controlled by the Lebanese Army. On breaking into the village, the punitive troops staged a massacre, killing 34 civilians and wounding dozens. More than one hundred people, including several Lebanese servicemen, were captured as hostages and taken in an unknown destination. Many houses were razed to the ground.

Correspondents of foreign news agencies described the massacre with harrowing details. Tanks of the aggressor literally crushed with their tracks the villagers who attempted to flee the Israeli onslaught.

Under pressure from Lebanese guerrillas and mounting demands inside its own country, Tel Aviv was compelled to start the withdrawal of its troops from southern Lebanon. But while doing that, the aggressor is expanding and toughening repressions, seeking to suppress through these draconic measures the mounting guerrilla movement in southern Lebanon.

Such is the "iron-hand policy", proclaimed by Tel Aviv. It is based on interventionist plunder, outrageous terror and gross violation of elementary norms of international law. But arbitrariness and violence on the part of the occupiers only strengthen the resolve of the Lebanese patriots to fight till victory. According to Israeli officers, the American ABC television network reports, resistance to Israeli troops in southern Lebanon is so strong that every village, every house pose a potential threat to Israeli soldiers.

Tel Aviv, banking, contrary to common sense, on violence and tougher terror against the Lebanese population, and having institutionalized this policy, finds full support from its strategic ally, Washington.

The Israeli military carried out its new piratic raid against south Lebanese civilians at a time when the U.N. Security Council is discussing the question of Tel Aviv's criminal actions in the occupied part of Lebanon. Lebanon's demands for a total cessation of Israeli occupation, for ensuring the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the country were backed by a big group of nations. But the U.S. representative threatened to impose a veto on any resolution denouncing Israel.

There is hardly any need to prove that Washington's direct connivance with Tel Aviv not only challenges the world community, but also encourages the impudent expansionists to ever new crimes.

REPORT ON IRAQI NUCLEAR REACTOR TO BE PRESENTED

GF121420 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 11 Mar 85 p 6

[Report by AL-ITTIHAD correspondent in London]

[Text] The Soviet V/O Atomenergoeksport will present in June 1985 its final report on the site for the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

Iraq asked the USSR to build the new reactor after the Israeli enemy attacked the previous reactor in 1981.

PRAVDA REPORTS LATEST IRAN-IRAQ WAR ACTIONS

PM131121 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Military Actions Continuing"]

[Text] Nicosia, 12 Mar -- The Iranian and Iraqi Armed Forces, it is reported, are continuing to make reciprocal air and artillery strikes on cities and civilian targets.

During the past 24 hours, aircraft of the Iraqi Air Force carried out 218 combat sorties, inflicting strikes on areas of enemy troop concentration, a routine communique from Iraq's High Military Command states. Iranian artillery shelled the cities of Basra and Mandali. An Iraqi military spokesman pointed out that on Tuesday Iranian troops undertook a new offensive in the Huwayzah region, but were surrounded and almost totally routed.

Iran's Military Command has reported that Iranian troops have subjected a number of Iraqi cities and population centers to artillery shelling and aerial bombardment. At the same time air strikes were made on the Iranian cities of Abadan, Ramhormoz, Salehabad, Dezful, and Khorramabad, as well as on individual targets in the city of Qazvin. Last night Iraqi aircraft fired rockets on a district of Tehran.

The mass media report numerous casualties and great devastation caused by reciprocal Iranian and Iraqi raids. Iraqi aircraft bombed one of the major cities, Tabriz, where many residential buildings were totally destroyed. The Iraqi Air Force carried out raids three times on the city of Esfahan. There are casualties among the city's peaceful population. Iran radio has reported that the Iranian Air Force bombed Baghdad, while artillery carried out a rocket strike on "industrial structures" in the city of Kirkuk.

PRAVDA CITES COMMENT ON UPCOMING MUBARAK TOUR

PM111653 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 85 Second Edition p 5

[Dispatch by own correspondent V. Peresada: "Egyptian President's Trip"]

[Text] Cairo, 8 Mar -- Egyptian President H. Mubarak has set off on a tour of a number of Western countries. The main part of the tour will be a visit to the United States, where he will hold talks with the leaders of the U.S. Administration. The Egyptian press reports that during the visit, the Egyptian side intends to discuss the prospects for a Near East settlement proceeding from the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement concluded in Amman recently and a number of proposals subsequently put forward by Cairo. As is well known, the Amman agreement and Cairo's proposals have been sharply criticized by many Arab countries and Palestinian organizations. During the visit across the ocean it is also planned to discuss questions of bilateral relations, primarily the question of increasing the volume of U.S. military and economic aid to Egypt.

The attention of observers here is attracted above all by the Near East aspect of the forthcoming talks. As is well known, an Egyptian-Jordanian summit meeting was held the day before in the Egyptian city of Al-Ghurdaqah. When it ended, it was announced that the sides had reached agreement, and expressed themselves in favor of some kind of "dialogue" between the United States and a "joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation." In other words, observers here note, ways of implementing the Amman agreement in practice may be discussed in Washington.

The Syrian newspaper TISHRIN writes that the Arab world is particularly alarmed by the fact that on the basis of the Amman agreement, it is planned to hold direct talks with Israel in Washington or Cairo in the future with a view to "settling the Palestinian problem." This is nothing more than the continuation of the course toward separate actions, the Aden newspaper 14 OCTOBER writes. It notes that at the same time the decisive significance of collective international efforts is being ignored and that an international conference on the Near East with the participation of all interested sides is only assigned the role of a "formal recorder" of agreements that might be achieved under U.S. auspices. The Amman agreement and, even more so, the "formulas" for its implementation lead only to the intensification of the split within the PLO and the contradictions among Arab states, to the intensification of U.S.-Israeli influence in the region, a statement from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine says.

IZVESTIYA MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF TIES WITH KUWAIT

PM111407 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[V. Shevchenko report: "Kuwait's Past and Present"]

[Excerpts] On 11 March 1963, diplomatic relations were established between the USSR and the state of Kuwait. Friendly Soviet-Kuwaiti ties, which are developing successfully, serve the cause of peace and international security.

The country can develop successfully and retain control over its natural wealth only in conditions of international security and stable peace in the region. The Kuwaitis are well aware of this. This is why, immediately after independence, the Kuwaiti Government began to implement a policy of positive neutrality aimed at relaxing international tension and establishing of mutually advantageous relations with different countries, irrespective of their sociopolitical systems. This policy has won Kuwait the respect of many of the world's states.

Kuwait's approach to the solution of key problems of the present day coincides in many respects with the Soviet Union's stance. Soviet initiatives to resolve the Near East crisis and ensure security in the Indian Ocean basin and the Persian Gulf are rated highly in Kuwait.

GORBACHEV, GROMYKO MEET WITH ETHIOPIA'S MENGISTU

PM141401 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Meeting With Mengistu Haile Mariam"]

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met 13 March with the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam. The talk was attended by the member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko.

Mikhail Gorbachev cordially thanked Mengistu Haile Mariam for the deep condolences offered by him on behalf of the Workers' Party and the people of Ethiopia in connection with the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

In the course of the talk held in a warm and comradely atmosphere Mikhail Gorbachev and Mengistu Haile Mariam discussed questions connected with a further development and consolidation of Soviet-Ethiopian cooperation and exchanged views on topical problems of the present-day international situation.

The leaders of both parties expressed satisfaction over the state of relations between the CPSU and the Workers' Party of Ethiopia and voiced their striving for their further consolidation. The Soviet side reaffirmed the invariable solidarity with the Ethiopian people in their struggle for the building of a new life, in defending the gains of the revolution.

The talk was attended by the Secretary of the Central Committee of Workers' Party of Ethiopia, head of the International Department of the Central Committee of the party Ashagre Yigletu.

U.S., S. AFRICA PLAN RENAMO ACTION IN MOZAMBIQUE

PM111631 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Preparing Provocation"]

[Text] Paris, 9 Mar -- The United States and the racist South African regime are parparing another armed provocation with a view to destabilizing the situation in Mozambique. This is clear from a statement by Fernandes, ringleader of the so-called Mozambique National Resistance Movement [Renamo] who is touring a number of West European capitals.

In an AFP interview this hardened terrorist boasted that Renamo, which as is known is in the pay of the U.S. CIA and the special services of racist South Africa, intends to carry out a major armed action on the republic's territory this May. We do not intend to halt the armed struggle until the Mozambique Liberation Front government enters into direct talks with Renamo with the essential participation of U.S. and South African representatives, Fernandes stated impudently. Here, he let slip that this condition has the support of Washington and Pretoria.

In the opinion of observers, the puppet's "revelations" are new evidence of unconcealed interference by the racists and their patrons across the ocean in the internal affairs of sovereign Mozambique.

GORBACHEV MEETS WITH NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA

PM131454 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Conversation Between M.S. Gorbachev and D. Ortega"]

[Text] There was a meeting 13 March between the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and President of the Republic of Nicaragua, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front Daniel Ortega. Taking part in the conversation were member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and Nicaragua's Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

Mikhail Gorbachev thanked Daniel Ortega for condolences upon Konstantin Chernenko's demise expressed on behalf of the Nicaraguan people and government.

There was an exchange of opinions about the situation in Central America. Mikhail Gorbachev confirmed solidarity of the Soviet people with the Nicaraguan people heroically upholding its right to free independent development. Both sides condemned resolutely the course of the U.S. Administration aimed at interference in the affairs of countries of the region, at the creation of a dangerous seat of tension there. At the same time, the sides confirmed the need of further intensification of international efforts, including the activity of the "Contadora Group" in the interests of a just political settlement in Central America. In this connection the Soviet side highly assessed Nicaragua's new constructive initiatives advanced recently.

CABLES EXCHANGED WITH DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PM111500 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has exchange telegrams with S. Jorge Blanco, president of the Dominican Republic, on the occasion of the country's national holiday.

PRAVDA CITES REACTION TO GORBACHEV SPEECH

PM131155 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS roundup: "Following the Course of Peace and Creation"]

[Text] 12 Mar -- The results of the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum are the center of attention for the international public and press. Prominent politicians and public figures of various countries and the press note that the Soviet people and party, approaching the 27th CPSU Congress, are demonstrating with special force these days their cohesion around the CPSU Central Committee and their determination to do everything to make the Land of the Soviets even richer and more powerful. The foreign mass media stress that, as M.S. Gorbachev stated in his speech at the plenum, the strategic line elaborated at the 26th congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums has been and remains immutable. This is the line of accelerating the socioeconomic development of the Soviet Union and improving all aspects of Soviet society's life; it is a clear and consistent course of peace and progress. The Soviet Union and the CPSU, proceeding from the fact that a principled policy is the only correct policy, will continue to firmly follow the Leninist course of peace and peaceful coexistence.

The BCP Central Committee Politburo stressed at an extraordinary session that the BCP and its Central Committee will continue to pursue the policy, proven by life, of all-around cooperation between Bulgaria and the USSR and between the Bulgarian and the great fraternal Soviet peoples in the struggle to build and improve developed socialism and to ensure the triumph of peace and communist ideals. The Politburo honored the memory of K.U. Chernenko, outstanding figure of the CPSU and the Soviet state and unswerving fighter for lasting peace, the strengthening of friendship and mutual understanding among peoples, and the triumph of communist ideals.

The CPSU and the Soviet state have done and are doing everything possible and necessary to strengthen the socialist community, consolidate socialism's positions in the world arena, avert nuclear catastrophe, and ensure lasting peace, the newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND (GDR) writes. In his vivid speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, M.S. Gorbachev stressed that the strategic line elaborated at the 26th congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums has been and remains immutable. He noted that the USSR values the successes in the relaxation of international tension achieved in the seventies and is ready to take part in continuing the process of organizing peaceful and mutually advantageous cooperation among states on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs. The 40th anniversary of the great victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism could be fittingly marked with new steps in this direction.

The first commandment of the CPSU and the Soviet state, Hungary's NEPSZABADSAG writes, is to cherish and strengthen in every possible way the fraternal friendship with the closest comrades in arms and allies, the countries of the great socialist community. This idea was stressed with the utmost force at the CPSU Central Committee plenum by M.S. Gorbachev, prominent figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state. He pointed out that in the struggle for peace and social progress Lenin's party will, as always, cooperate closely with fraternal communist, workers, and revolutionary democratic parties and advocate unity and active cooperation among all revolutionary forces.

The Soviet Union has invariably advocated and continues to advocate constructive dialogue and practical measures leading to a reduction of international tension and the establishment of an atmosphere of trust, cooperation, and mutual understanding among all peoples and states, Mongolian radio states in its commentary.

M.S. Gorbachev's speech's speech at the plenum clearly showed that the multifaceted activity of the Leninist party in the foreign policy sphere is based on a firm determination to defend and maintain peace.

In reply to a question from AFP's correspondent in Beijing a PRC Foreign Ministry official spokesman declared: We have noted with satisfaction the positive assessment voiced by M.S. Gorbachev in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum on the question of developing relations between the PRC and the USSR.

M.S. Gorbachev, THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, set forth a principled program for the further development of the Soviet Union's economy, emphasizing that the USSR must achieve a decisive turning point in putting the national economy on a footing of intensive development in order to attain the most advanced scientific and technical positions and the highest world level of social labor productivity. The Soviet leader pointed out that the Soviet Union wants a real and major reduction in stockpiled arms, not the creation of more and more new weapons systems, either in space or on earth.

THE WASHINGTON POST notes: Referring to the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, the Soviet leader voiced the wish that the United States understand the Soviet Union's position and respond with reciprocity.

The speech of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary attests to the immutability of the Soviet Union's approach to problems of disarmament and also to other very important foreign policy problems, Britain's DAILY TELEGRAPH states. The Soviet leadership's policy in the international arena is distinguished by clarity and consistency.

M.S. Gorbachev, Austria's APA news agency reports, reaffirmed Moscow's loyalty to the policy of relaxing international tension. The Soviet Union is ready to participate in continuing the process of organizing peaceful, mutually advantageous cooperation among states on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in internal affairs.

The Soviet leadership, Japan's MAINICHI writes, is continuing its purposeful foreign policy aimed at peaceful coexistence and ensuring the peoples' security.

In his plenum speech M.S. Gorbachev proposed a freeze on nuclear arsenals and an end to further missile deployment, Delhi's HINDUSTAN TIMES points out. The Soviet Union is for a real and major reduction in stockpiled arms and against the creation of more and more new weapons systems, whether in space or on earth.

The USSR has confirmed once again most forcefully and authoriatively that its sympathies are on the side of Asian, African, and Latin American countries traveling the path of strengthening independence and social renewal, Syria's AL-THAWRAH emphasizes. These countries are the Soviet Union's friends and partners in the struggle for lasting peace and for better, just relations among the peoples. The Soviet Union demonstrates by its actions its loyalty to peace and disarmament, and its peace-loving foreign policy is supported by all who value peace on earth.

FURTHER SPEECHES GIVEN AT CHERNENKO FUNERAL

Academician Fedoseyev

PM140959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 2

["P.N. Fedoseyev's Speech"]

[Text] Comrades! Soviet scientists deeply feel the great loss and sincerely share in the nationwide grief over the passing away of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, an outstanding figure in the Communist Party and the Soviet state, a faithful patriot of the socialist motherland, an internationalist, and a steadfast fighter for a peaceful life on earth and the social progress of mankind. He devoted his entire life to the cause of the Communist Party and the building of socialism and in all his posts of responsibility displayed a Leninist commitment to principles and the party, a keen awareness of social duty, and tireless concern for links with the masses and for the welfare of the people.

He was an eminent theoretician and an indefatigable teacher of Marxism-Leninism, and in his actions was a vivid example of the organic combination of revolutionary theory and practice, organizational and ideological work. His attention was always concentrated on questions of ideological and political education and improving the theoretic training of cadres.

Comrade Chernenko made an important contribution to the development of Marxist-Leninist theory. His speeches and articles put forward well founded and principled theses on ways and methods of perfecting the developed socialist society and on the prospects for its movement toward communism. Of great importance are his speeches on the party's ideological work and on the problems of educating and bringing up the young generation in the spirit of a scientific world view, devotion to the socialist motherland, and readiness for constructive activity for the welfare of the people.

He paid much attention to the propagation of experience of the socialist countries and to contemporary problems in the consolidation of the socialist world community. He thoroughly elaborated aspects of the theory and practice of international relations in today's complex situation.

For his creative contribution to the development of Marxist-Leninist theory, he received the highest award of the USSR Academy of Sciences in the field of social science -- the Karl Marx Gold Medal. Soviet scientists knew and highly praised Comrade Chernenko's concern for the development of science and scientific and technical progress as the principal factor in perfecting socialist productive forces and raising the efficiency of social production. Devoting their energy and knowledge to the welfare of our motherland, Soviet scientistis are aware that the continued, consistent, and comprehensive perfection of the developed socialist society and the development of the theory and practice of scientific communism will be a living embodiment of the high ideals of the Leninist party in whose name Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko lived, worked, and struggled. Soviet scientists unanimously approved and fully support the decisions of the extraordinary March Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which demonstrated the consistency and continuity of the party's policies, its indestructible unity, and solid cohesion under the invincible banner of Marxism-Leninism.

Komsomol's Mishin

LD131446 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 2

["V.M. Mishin's Speech"]

[Text] Respected comrades: At this sad moment of national grief, Komsomol members, young men and women, are profoundly feeling the pain of the loss that has befallen the party and country. Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, an outstanding state and political figure, a selfless fighter for peace and communism, has passed away.

The political biography of Konstantin Ustinovich began in the ranks of the Leninist Komsomol. Here his character and will grained strength, and his organizational faculties developed. Having emerged from among the people, brought up by the Communist Party and our Soviet system, Konstantin Ustinovich was, in all his posts, faithful to the Leninist tradition of a paternal attitude toward young people in attending to the affairs and concerns of the Komsomol and Pioneers. Konstantin Ustinovich believed in young people in the Bolshevik fashion, and supported their creative energy and enthusiasm. With his name is inseparably linked an important stage in the development of the theory and practice of the party leadership of the Komsomol, in whose constant perfection the party sees a major guarantee of the revolutionary continuity of the generations in socialist society. Under the leadership of the CPSU Central Committee, far-reaching, energetic measures are being undertaken to reconstruct Soviet schools, improve the Komsomol's activity, and enhance its role in the communist education of young people, measures affecting the interests of millions of young men and women, which will have a favorable affect on the fates of the present and future generations.

Considering that young people can and must do a lot to avert the military threat, Konstantin Ustinovich actively supported the Komsomol's initiative to hold the 12th World Youth and Students Festival in Moscow in the year of the 40th anniversary of our great victory. In preparing for it, the Komsomol is strengthening its friendship with the fraternal youth alliances of the socialist countries and with the communist and revolutionary-democratic youth organizations of the capitalist and developing states. Together with them it is advancing in the vanguard of the anti-imperialist struggle and of the entire progressive world youth.

At this sorrowful time, conscious of the entirety of its responsibility for the communist upbringing of the rising generations, the Komsomol is uniting its ranks even more tightly around the dear Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, which confidently leads the Soviet people along the path of perfecting developed socialism.

The Leninist Komsomol completely approves and endorses the results of the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum. The plenum convincingly showed the continuity of the strategic course of our party and confirmed with complete clarity that the Communist Party is precisely that force capable of heeding the interests of all classes and social groups, and all nations and nationalities in the country, and of uniting them together and mobilizing the people's energy for the common cause of communist creation.

Komsomol members and young men and women will do everything to fulfill the tasks set by the party, will worthily meet the 27th CPSU Congress, will strengthen in an all-around manner the economic and defense might of the socialist fatherland, and multiply the glorious traditions of the older generations of fighters for communism.

The Komsomol lowers its banners before the bright memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, a Communist and demanding and sensitive mentor of young people. His name will live on in the memory and deeds of Soviet youth.

Krasnoyarsk Farm Worker

LD131419 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1017 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Speech given at Chernenko funeral in Red Square by Comrade Semen Sergeyevich Tsiglimov, machine operator at the "Legostayevskiy" Sovkhoz in Novoselovskiy Rayon, Krasnoyarsk Kray, Hero of Socialist Labor, deputy of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet -- live]

[Text] Esteemed comrades: It is difficult to put into words our grief at this loss, our great sorrow at the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, that outstanding political figure and loyal Communist and Leninist. While holding the highest posts in the party and state, as our elder comrade and someone from our own part of the country, he was at the same time close and dear to us, Siberians from Krasnoyarsk Kray.

The labor biography of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko began on the banks of the Yenisey in the distant twenties. This is where he acquired his labor and political fortitude. From an early age he knew the bitter lot of a farm worker. In the years of the collectivization of agriculture, he was one of those who set up the first kolkhozes and struggled actively for the implementation of the plans of the first 5-year plans.

As secretary of the kraykom in the grim war years, Konstantin Ustinovich devoted all his efforts and energies to bringing our great victory closer.

To his last days, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko retained a love in his heart for the Krasnoyarsk region, for its harsh and beautiful landscape. He never severed his links with his native region.

His contribution to the comprehensive development of the kray's productive forces and the setting up of large industrial complexes was substantial. He showed daily interest in progress on the construction of Sayan-Shushenskoye GES, one of the greatest hydroelectric power stations in the world; in how the Kansk-Achinsk territorial-economic complex was growing; how polar Norilsk was increasing its capacities; how the working and everyday lives of grain farmers were being transformed; how towns and settlements were being improved.

The people of Krasnoyarsk Kray will always keep the memory of their unforgettable meetings with Konstantin Ustinovich. He was in the kray, in our rayon, on numerous occasions. We well remember his sincere and sympathetic attitude, the attention he paid to us, ordinary workers, to our needs and concerns.

As one of the people, Konstantin Ustinovich was always straightforward and accessible; he had the ability to notice and support initiative on the part of working people. They responded to him with sincere love, appreciation, and a desire to work to the best of their abilities.

In accompanying Konstantin Ustinovich on his final journey, the working people of the kray, like all Soviet people, clearly realize that the best way to preserve his memory will be for us to work selflessly for the further strengthening of the economic and defense might of our socialist homeland, and for peace and happiness on earth.

The Communists and all working people of Krasnoyarsk Kray unanimously approve and support the decisions of the March Central Committee Plenum and assure their Leninist party that they will continue to work persistently for the triumph of the great cause of communism, to which Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko devoted the whole of his remarkable life.

Farewell to you, our dear Konstantin Ustinovich.

SOKOLOV ADDRESSES CHERNENKO MOURNING MEETING

PM131026 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Mar 85 Second Edition p2

[Unattributed report under black-boxed rubric "Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko": "The Bitterness of the Heavy Loss. Mourning Meeting of Personnel from the Central Apparatus of the USSR Ministry of Defense, the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, and the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate"]

[Text] The news of the death of K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and chairman of the USSR Defense Council, has caused acute and painful anguish in every Soviet citizen's heart.

"Army and Navy servicemen share the bitterness of the loss with the whole Soviet people," Marshal of the Soviet Union S.I. Sokolov, USSR defense minister, said on opening a mourning meeting devoted to K.U. Chernenko's memory. "An outstanding figure of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, patriot and internationalist, and tireless fighter for peace and Soviet people's happiness has departed this life.

"The further strengthening of the unity of party and people is linked with Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's name. He played an eminent role in elaborating major theoretical problems concerning the improvement of developed socialism. A new step in further strengthening our country's defense capability and enhancing the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces and the armies of Warsaw Pact countries was taken under the leadership of the party Central Committee and its Leninist Politburo headed by K.U. Chernenko.

"In these sorrowful days," Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov said, "the USSR Armed Forces dip their battle standards before the bright memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Army and Navy servicemen unanimously support and approve the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum. Closely rallied around the Communist Party, they will continue in a complex and dangerous international situation to do everything to fittingly perform their sacred duty to defend Soviet people's peaceful labor."

"Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko worked selflessly and with the party principledness and Leninist businesslike efficiency typical of him in all the responsible positions assigned to him by the party," Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, noted in his address. "Konstantin Ustinovich devoted much energy and attention to improving the forms and methods of ideological education and organizational work among the masses and boosting the ideological tempering of Army and Navy servicemen. His speech at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries became a program for all Army and Navy personnel in raising vigilance and strengthening combat readiness in units and ships and reliably defending October's gains."

Addressing the meeting Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of Warsaw Pact States' Joint Armed Forces, stressed K.U. Chernenko's great contribution to further developing all-around cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries.

The principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems were firmly and consistently pursued under his leadership, and a resolute rebuff was given to imperialism's aggressive schemes.

The mourning meeting was also addressed by Army General Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of ground forces, and Colonel V.S. Filimonov. On behalf of Soviet servicemen the speakers declared the readiness of Army and Navy personnel to fittingly perform their patriotic and international duty and reliably guard the gains of socialism.

SOVIET LEADERS RECEIVE FOREIGN DELEGATIONS

PM141001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar First Edition pp 2, 5

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- Heads of foreign delegations that had arrived to attend Konstantin Chernenko's funeral met with Soviet leaders in the Kremlin on 13 March. They expressed profound condolences to General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev; CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Tikhonov; CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko; Politburo member, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, First Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy Kuznetsov.

The Soviet leaders expressed deep gratitude to all heads of foreign delegations who had arrived in Moscow to pay tribute to the memory of Konstantin Chernenko, an outstanding figure of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, and of the international communist and working class movement.

Condolences were expressed by:

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov; First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Janos Kadar; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, Chairman of the State Council of the GDR Erich Honecker; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, Chairman of the Presidium of Peopel's Great Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic Jambyn Batmonh; First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic Wojciech Jaruzelski; General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Gustav Husak; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Truong Chinh; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Second Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, First Deputy Chairman of the State Council and Council of Ministers, Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba Raul Castro; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Souphanouvong; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Premier of the Administrative Council of the DPRK Kang Song-san; President of the Collective Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Veselin Djuranovic, President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Ali Sukrija;

Deputy Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Li Peng; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal;

General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam; Chairman of the MPLA-Workers Party [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola], President of the People's Republic of Angola Jose Eduardo dos Santos; President of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Ali Nasir Muhammad; Chairman of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] party, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique Samora Machel; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea Heng Samrin; Deputy General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party Yussaf Faysal; member of the Political Bureau of the National Liberation Front of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic, head of the Standing Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Front Mohamed Cherif Messaadia; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Congolese Party of Labor, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the People's Republic of the Congo Antoine Ndinga-Oba; President of the National People's Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, member of the Political Bureau of AREMA [Advance Guard of the Malagasy Revolution] Lucien Andrianarahinjaka;

General Secretary of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (CCM) Rashidi Kawawa; General Secretary of the United National Independence Party (UNIP) of the Republic of Zambia Humphrey Mulemba; General Secretary of the Unity and National Progress Party (UPRONA), President of the National Assembly of Burundi Emile Mworoha; Chairman of the German Communist Party Herbert Mies; Chairman of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin Horst Schmitt; General Secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party Alvaro Cunhal; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece Kharilaos Florakis; General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party Alessandro Natta; members of the Political Bureau, Secretaries of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party Gaston Plissonnier and Maxime Gremetz; President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan Tetsuzo Fuwa, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party Georges Hawi;

General Secretary of the Communist Party of Canada William Kashtan; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel Me'ir Wilner; General Secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) Ezekias Papaioannou; member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States James Jackson; General Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain Gordon McLennan; Chairman of the Communist Party of Austria Franz Muhri; Chairman of the Communist Party of Denmark Jorgen Jensen; Chairman of the Communist Party of Finland Arvo Aalto; National Chairman of the Communist Party of Ireland Michael O'Riordan; member of the leadership of the South African Communist Party Jo Slovo; Deputy Chairman of the Left Party -- Communists of Sweden Bertil Mobrink; General Secretary of the Communist Party (Spain) Ignacio Gallego; General Secretary of the Communist Party of Spain Enrique Curiel; Chairman of the Communist Party of Belgium Louis Ban Geyt.

Chairman of the Communist Party of Luxembourg Rene Urbany; Chairman of the Board of the Workers Party -- Communists of Sweden Rolf Hagel; General Secretary of the San Marino Communist Party Gilberto Ghiotti; Deputy General Secretary of the Swiss Party of Labour Jean Spielman; General Secretary of the Communist Party of Malta Anthony Vassalo;

First Secretary of the Tunisian Communist Party Mohamed Harmel; member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Palestinian Communist Party N. al-Ashkhab; a delegation of the Communist Party of Saudi Arabia; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the United Party of Haiti Communists Rene Theodore; member of the Political Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Chile Volodia Teitelboim; member of the Political Commission of the Central Committee of the Paraguyan Communist Party Antonio Maidana; representatives of the Iraqi Communist Party; member of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Jamaica E. Thomas; Chairman of the Independence and Labor Party of Senegal Seydou Cissokho; member of the Steering Committee of the Bahrain National Liberation Front 'Abdallah Rashid.

The editorial board of the PROBLEMY MIRA I SOTSIALIZMA (WORLD MARXIST REVIEW) Journal; President of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), Nimibia, Sam Nujoma; General Secretary of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa Alfred Nzo; General Secretary of the Socialist Party of Chile Clodomiro Almeyda; Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan Masashi Ishibashi; member of the Federal Committee, Secretary of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party E. Flores; Yasir 'Arafat, Faruq Qaddumi -- from the Palestine Liberation Organization; President of the World Peace Council Romesh Chandra; General Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions Ibrahim Zakaria.

Minister of Australia John Button; President of the Austrian Republic Rudolf Kirchschlaeger; Chairman of the House of Deputies of the National Congress of Argentina Juan Carlos Pugliese; Minister of External Relations of Belgium Leo Tindemans; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Botswana G. Chiepe; member of the Papal Academy of Vatican D. Marini-Bettolo; Prime Minister of Britain M. Thatcher; Federal Chancellor of West Germany H. Kohl; member of the Political Bureau, permament Secretary of the Central Committee of PAIGC (the Republic of Guinea Bissau) V. Cabral; member of the Military Committee of National Reconstruction, Minister for the Affairs of the Youth, Sports, and Culture of the Guinean Republic Mamady Bayo; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, member of the Executive Bureau of the Central Committee of PASOK I. Kharalambopoulos; Georg, prince of Denmark; Chairman of the Consultative Council of the Arab Republic of Egypt M.A. Hakim; President of Zimbabwe C. Banana; member of the Political Commission of the National Council of PAICV, Minister of National Defense of the Republic of Cape Verde Honorio Chantre Fortes; Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi; Prime Minister of Jordan A. Ubaydat; Deputy Chairman of the Council of Revolutionary Command of Iraq I. Ibrahim; President of Ireland P. Hillery; Deputy Prime Minister of Iceland H. Asgrimsson; head of the Government of Spain F. Gonzalez; Prime Minister of the Yemen Arab Republic 'Abd al-Ghani; General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen A.N. Muhammad; Minister of State for Planning and the Development of Territories of Cameroon Y. Daouda; President of Italy A. Pertini; Prime Minister of Canada B. Mulroney; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kenya E. Mwangale; Chairman of the House of Representatives of Cyprus G. Ladhas; member of the revolutionary leadership of Libya H. al-Humaydi; Minister of Health of Luxembourg B. Berg; Prime Minister of Lebanon R.Karami; Minister of Information and Telecommunication of Mauritania A. Ghanallah; Chairman of the National People's Assembly of Madagascar Andrianarahinjaka; President of Malta A. Barbara; Prime Minister of Morocco M. Lamrani; Minister of the Interior of Mexico M. Bartlett; Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of the Netherlands G. van Aardenne; member of the Supreme Military Council, Minister of Defense of Nigeria Major General D. Bali; President of Nicaragua D. Ortega; Crown Prince Harald of Norway, Prime Minister of Norway K. Willoch; President of Pakistan Ziaul Haq; Chairman of the Assembly of Portugal F. Amaral; Captain-Regents of San Marino G. Amici and M. Bollini; Deputy Minister of Planning and External Relations of the Seychelles D. de Saint Jorre;

Assistant General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party [Syria] A. Ahmar; Vice President of the United States G. Bush; Vice President of Sudan J. Lago; Minister and personal representative of the President of Tunisia M. Cooli; Prime Minister of Turkey T. Ozal; Vice President of the People's Congress of Uganda P. Muwanga; permanent representative of Uruguay at international organizations in Geneva Lacarte Muro; Governor of Greater Manila, Minister of Ecology and Settlements of the Philippines I. Marcos; President of Finland M. Koivisto; President of France F. Mitterrand; Defense Minister of Switzerland J.P. Delamuraz; Prince Bertil of Sweden; the special representative of the president, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka A.C.Sh. Hameed; Prime Minister of Japan Y. Nakasone; official representatives of the Governments of Brazil, Venezuela, Guyana, New Zealand, Indonesia, Kuwait, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Thailand and other countries; UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar; First Deputy Director General of UNESCO J. Knapp; Chairman of the Board of Directors and President of "Occidental Petroleum Corporation" Armand Hammer; Deputy Secretary General of the Arab League L. Ibrahimi, and others.

Tikhonov Meets Delegations

LD131941 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov today had a meeting in the Kremlin with member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic Dumaagiyn Sodnom.

Nikolay Tikhonov expressed gratitude for profound condolences which were conveyed by Dumaagiyn Sodnon over Konstantin Chernenko's death.

In the course of the talk both sides noted with satisfaction successful development of many-sided fraternal relations between the USSR and the Mongolian People's Republic. The determination was expressed to continue doing the utmost to strengthen the traditional Soviet-Mongolian friendship and close cooperation.

First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR V.F. Maltsev and Ambassador of the Mongolian People's Republic in the USSR Tserengiyn Gurbadam took part in the talk which passed in the atmosphere of fraternal friendship and cordiality.

On the same day Nikolay Tikhonov met in the Kremlin with member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, Premier of the Administrative Council of the Democratic People's Republic of the Korea Kang Song-san.

Nikolay Tikhonov expressed gratitude for the deep condolences which were conveyed by Kang Song-san over Konstantin Chernenko's death.

The heads of government noted with satisfaction the successful development of all-round links between the USSR and the DPRK, emphasized the determination to continue doing the utmost for strengthening the traditional Soviet-Korean friendship and close cooperation in the interests of peace and socialism.

First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR V.F. Maltsev, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea Hwang Chang-yop, First Deputy Foreign Minister of the DPRK Yi Chong-mok, DPRK Ambassador in the USSR Kwon Hui-kyong took part in the talk, which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Nikolay Tikhonov had a meeting in the Kremlin with Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey Turgut Ozal who came for Konstantin Chernenko's funeral.

Nikolay Tikhonov expressed gratitude to the Turkish leadership for their respect for the memory of Konstantin Chernenko.

Questions of Soviet-Turkish relations and the international situation were discussed in the course of the talk. Having noted the satisfactory results of Nikolay Tikhonov's recent visit to Turkey, the sides declared for further expansion of mutually-beneficial cooperation in different spheres and development of goodneighbourly relations between both countries.

Taking part in the meeting from the Soviet side were First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR V.F. Maltsev, chief of the Near East Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry V.S. Sarfonchuk, from the Turkish side -- Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu, the Ambassador of Turkey in the USSR Oktay Cankardes.

PRAVDA REPORTS 'ARAFAT AT CHERNENKO FUNERAL

PM131833 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 14 March in its First Edition carries on pages 1 and 2 a TASS report describing the 13 March lying-in-state of Chernenko and the funeral ceremony subsequently held in Red Square at which, PRAVDA notes, a delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization comprising Yasir 'Arafat and Faruq Qaddumi was present.

FURTHER ON NATIONAL MOURNING, CONDOLENCES

Oblast, Ministry Groups

LD121134 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0930 GMT 12 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Numerous profound condolences are continuing to arrive for the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers from party, local authority, and public organizations, labor collectives, and Soviet citizens in connection with the demise of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Condolences have been sent by:

The Altay and Stavropol Kray Party Committees and executive committees of the kray soviets of people's deputies; Amur, Tyumen, and Magadan Oblast Committees of the CPSU and executive committees of oblast soviets of people's deputies; Karelia Oblast Party Committee and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic; Bashkir Oblast Committee of the CPSU and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers of Bashkiriya; the USSR Ministries of Internal Affairs, Electronics Industry, Chemical Industry, Automotive Industry, and Agricultural Construction Industry; and the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

Message From Turkmenistan

GF121940 Ashkhabad Domestic Service in Russian 1720 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] From the Communists and the workers of Turkmenistan: The Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee, Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the SSR Council of Ministers, all the Communists, and all the workers of Soviet Tur Turkmenistan are deeply mourning the heavy loss to our Communist Party and the whole Soviet people on the death of the leader of the Leninist party of the Soviet Government, ardent patriot of the socialist homeland, tireless fighter for peace and communism, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The entire life of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko has been an example of [word indistinct] serving the interests of the party, the people, and the great work of Lenin. Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko has greatly contributed to the implementation of the plans of communist construction, [word indistinct] serving the party and the people, to consolidate their unshattered unity [word indistinct] February, April, and October 1984 CPSU Plenums.

In the decisions of the plenums and [word indistinct] of the speeches of Konstantin Ustinoich, the strategy of progressive socialism has been developed. He contributed greatly to the implementation of school reform in general education. The role of the soviets of people's deputies, organs of people's control, the trade unions, Komsomols, and the creative organizations has been raised.

The shining memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko will always remain in the hearts of the Communists of the Turkmen people. We assure the Leninist CPSU Central Committee that the Communists and workers of Soviet Turkmenistan will strongly organize their ranks around the dear Communist Party, and [word indistinct] firmly direct all their power toward realizing the plans of the party to further consolidate the economic and defensive might of our homeland and for welcoming the 27th CPSU Congress with great achievements.

[signed] Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee, Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Turkmen SSR Council of Ministers.

From Republic CP's, Workers

LD130526 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Profound condolences are coming in for the CPSU Central Committee, Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and USSR Council of Ministers from party, local authority and public organizations, labor collectives, and from Soviet citizens in connection with the demise of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. Condolences have been received from the Communists and working people of Georgia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Latvia, Tajikistan, Estonia; from the Communists and working people of Krasnoyarsk Kray and Penza Oblast, from the Dnepropetrovsk Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and the Executive Committee of the Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies; from the Kustanay Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan and the Executive Committee of the Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies; from the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry, the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and from Soviet journalists, from the collectives of the Altay tractor electrical equipment works, and the Kovrov Degtyarev works.

Condolences are continuing to arrive.

Workers Mourn, Pledge Support

LD130535 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Meetings of mourning of the working people have taken place at the October Revolution Shipbuilding Yard, at the Amur-Elektro-Pribor Works, and at many other industrial enterprises and kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Amur Oblast. The workers expressed complete approval of the speech by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, and the desire to mark with shock labor the final year of the 11th 5-Year Plan.

At meetings of mourning workers of the Izh-stal, Izh-mash and Mekhanicheskiy Zavod Associations, of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and of other enterprises in Udmurtiya, in response to the appeal by the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers, people have been stating that they rally unanimously around the party and that they are firmly resolved to support its course: to work even better, to strengthen discipline everywhere. These are the unanimous resolutions adopted today at meetings of machinebuilders and metallurgical workers, oil men and power generation people, and all workers of the autonomous republic.

The working people of the Donbass also warmly approve and support the decisions of the extraordinary March Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. This is being stated by people taking part in meetings taking place now at mines, works, and construction sites. Before the work shift began today, the miners of the Gorkiy Pit in Donetsk gathered for a meeting. At the rostrum was Nikolay Vasilyevich Savelev leader of a mining team:

[Begin Savelev recording] The CPSU and the whole Soviet people have suffered a severe loss. We warmly approve the decisions of the Central Committee plenum that has just taken place and fully support the Leninist course of the Central Committee and its Politburo. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee call upon us to strengthen the economic and defensive might of the homeland and to fulfill successfully and overfulfill the tasks of the 5-year plan. A strong labor and production discipline is needed in every labor collective, and a high level of responsibility and selfless labor in every workplace. [end recording]

MORE ON FOREIGN CONDOLENCES ON CHERNENKO DEATH

From Poland

LD121137 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0930 GMT 12 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Profound condolences upon the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko are being expressed by heads of state and government, outstanding politicians, and public figures and the leaders of political parties of various countries.

At a session in Warsaw, the Presidium of the Government of the Polish People's Republic expressed profound sorrow and condolences in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, and also honored his memory. Empahsis was laid upon Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's great contribution to the cause of strengthening peace and international security and reinforcing the socialist community, and upon his exceptionally friendly [russ druzhestvennyy] and internationalist attitude toward Poland.

From LCY's Sukrija

PM141031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee

Dear comrades!

It was with deep sorrow that we received the news of the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

On behalf of the LCY Central Committee Presidium and LCY Central Committee, all our country's Communists and working people, and myself personally, I express the deepest condolences to the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the CPSU Central Committee, all Soviet Communists, and the working class, peoples, and nationalities of the USSR.

With the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko the friendly peoples of the Soviet Union, the CPSU, and the Soviet state have lost their highest leader and a tireless fighter for the further socialist development of the USSR and for peace and cooperation in the world. Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko headed the CPSU and the state at a very important time when preparations for important decisions on the further development of Soviet society, the 27th CPSU Congress, and the new edition of the CPSU program are under way. As an outstanding party and state leader he made a considerable contribution to this work.

We highly valued Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's work to develop the multifaceted relations and cooperation between the LCY and the CPSU and between our two socialist countries on the basis of the well known, jointly approved principles, which accords with the vital interests of our peoples and countries.

We will retain the bright memory of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko forever. Please convey our sincere sympathy to the family of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium

From SFRY's Planinc

LD140023 Moscow International Service in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] A telegram from Milka Planinc, president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, to Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has been received in Moscow. The telegram says:

In connection with the grave loss suffered by the friendly Soviet people with the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on behalf of the Federal Executive Council and my own behalf, I convey to you and to the USSR Council of Ministers deepest condolences. Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, a prominent statesman and leader of the Soviet Union, made a great contribution to the development of friendly relations and comprehensive and mutually useful equitable cooperation between our two socialist countries, and we have always rated this very highly.

At this sad moment I also wish to express conviction that successful Yugoslav-Soviet cooperation, based on jointly established principles, will continue to develop comprehensively in the lasting interest of the peoples of our countries, and of peace and progress in the world. I ask you, Comrade Chairman, to convey our condolences to Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's family.

From DPRK's Kim Il-song

PM141029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidum:

I received with very deep sorrow the news that Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium died of illness.

At this sorrowful moment, I express deep condolences to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Government, all the people of the USSR, and the bereaved family of the deceased on behalf of the WPK Central Committee, the Government of the DPRK, and the Korean people, and on my own behalf.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko was an outstanding activist of the Soviet Communist Party and state and a staunch fighter for socialism and peace who devoted his entire life to the sacred struggle to safeguard the gains of the October Revolution, to strengthen the party, to consolidate the social system of the Soviet state, and to achieve the unity of the socialist countries and the cohesion of the international communist movement.

Faithful to the cause of Lenin, Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko made a great contribution, holding the supreme office of the Soviet party and state, to the cause of increasing the economic power and defense capacity of the country, perfecting [sovershenstvovovaniye] developed socialist society, the struggle to oppose imperialism and to prevent a new world war, and the work of defending the peace and security of Europe and the rest of the world.

A close friend of the Korean people, Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko greatly contributed to expanding and developing to a new higher stage the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation established between the parties, countries, and peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, and actively supported and expressed solidarity with our people in their just struggle for socialist construction and the independent and peaceful unification [obedineniye] of the fatherland.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko performed undying feats for the Communist Party and state of the Soviet Union and for socialism and the international communist movement.

The death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko is a great loss not only to the Soviet people, but also to the peoples of Korea and other socialist countries and the world's peace-loving people.

Although Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko has passed away, his noble achievements will remain long in the hearts of the Soviet and Korean peoples and the progressive people of the entire world.

Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK.

From Lao Leaders

PM141131 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, USSR Council of Ministers

It was with profound grief that we learned of the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

On behalf of the LPRP [Lao People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee, the Supreme People's Council and Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and the entire Lao people, we express our profound condolences to you and to the Communists and fraternal Soviet people.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko was an outstanding leader of the Communist Party and Soviet state, a loyal son of the Soviet people, a continuer of the great cause of V.I. Lenin, an active figure of the international communist and workers movement, and a resolute fighter for peace, friendship, and solidarity among the people.

For the more than 50 years of his activity, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko constantly gave his efforts and knowledge to the Soviet people's revolutionary cause in various responsible party and state posts right up to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko was sincerely devoted to the ideals of communism and was a fighter for the purity of Marxism-Leninism. Throughout his activity in his supreme post, he made an important contribution to the constant consolidation of the Soviet Union's economic and defense might, the improvement of developed socialism, and the improvement of the Soviet people's material and cultural living standard.

Firmly adhering to Leninist foreign policy principles, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko made a tremendous contribution to the consolidation of the friendship and indestructible unity of the socialist community, to the struggle for peace and security among the peoples, and to the prevention of the threat of nuclear war.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko paid constant attention to the development of relations of solidarity and all-around cooperation between the parties, states, and peoples of the Soviet Union and Laos.

The death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko is a grave loss to the party, state, and peoples of the Soviet Union, the Communists of the socialist countries, and all the world's progressive mankind and is a tremendous loss to the Communists and people of Laos. The party, state, and entire Lao people will remember Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's service forever.

At this grave hour, on behalf of the LPRP Central Committee and the LPDR Supreme People's Council and Council of Ministers, allow us to express our condolences and to share the grief of this loss with you and with the family and close associates of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, who has left us forever.

We are sure that despite this grave loss, the great fraternal Soviet people, who were the first in the world to embark on the path of socialist building under the true and wise leadership of the Leninist Communist Party, will achieve great new successes in improving the Soviet people's well-being, safeguarding peace and security in the world, preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress, and achieving the complete victory of developed socialism and communism.

Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, Souphanouvong, president of the LPDR and chairman of the LPDR Supreme People's Council.

From France's Mitterrand

PM141041 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Text] To the Supreme Soviet Presidium: The news of the death of Mr Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, came as a great shock to me.

The grief was even greater because last year I had an opportunity to meet and talk with him during my first official visit to your country.

On behalf of the French people and on my own behalf, I convey to the Supreme Soviet Presidium my sincere condolences on the occcasion of the death of this outstanding leader. At the moment when the Soviet people, with whom France is linked by longstanding traditions of friendship, are living through this trial, I want to assure them of my country's profound sympathy.

Francois Mitterrand

From French CP

LD132252 Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- The Central Committee of the French Communist Party expressed condolences to the CPSU and the Soviet people on the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

"Konstantin Chernenko died at a time when our countries are preparing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of victory over Hitlerism and the liberation of Europe from nazism. No one will forget the immense losses sustained by your people in the struggle for freedom," the telegram addressed to the CPSU Central Committee says, inter alia.

"In the international situation noted for tension and the escalation of the arms race, Konstantin Chernenko formulated on behalf of the USSR peace proposals which contributed to opening prospects for talks on preventing the militarization of space and on reducing all nuclear armaments.

"He reiterated the Soviet Union's constant desire to step up economic, technical, cultural and political cooperation with France, using every available possibility for their development in the interests of our two peoples and in the interests of European and world peace and security," the Central Committee of the French Communist Party says.

From Italy's Pertini

PM141055 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Text] To V.V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

I was profoundly grieved by the news of the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. At this sorrowful time for the Soviet people, I pay a respectful tribute to the memory of an outstanding leader of the USSR whose high moral qualities, creative work for the good of his country, and political activeness to maintain and strengthen peace throughout the world I have come to know and highly appreciate. I extend sincere and fraternal condolences on behalf of the Italian people and on my own behalf to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Goverment, the friendly Soviet people, as well as to the relatives and friends of the deceased.

From Italian CP

PM141125 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee

Dear comrades,

It was with deep pain that the Italian Communists received the sad news of the death of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

With his death a leader of great and rich experience has departed this life, a leader who, although he held the highest post in the CPSU and the Soviet state for a short time, managed to make a great contribution to overcoming tension and confrontation in international relations and to the resumption of the path of dialogue and talks on problems of disarmament and peace, which are of crucial importance for all mankind. The beginning of the new talks between the United States and the Soviet Union in Geneva is also the result of his constant efforts in this direction. His activity in internal affairs and in the leadership of the Soviet state and the CPSU was also prominent.

Please convey to the family and close friends of Comrade K.U. Chernenko and to the Communists and peoples of the Soviet Union feelings of sincere and deep condolences from Italian Communists on the grave loss they have suffered.

Italian Communist Party Central Committee

From Portuguese President

LD140043 Moscow International Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Telegrams of condolences on Konstantin Chernenko's death continue to arrive in Moscow. A telegram from President of the Portuguese Republic Antonio Ramalho Eanes, reads: To the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: On learning of the death of Konstantin Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I wish to convey on my own behalf and that of the Portuguese people sincere condolences on the loss suffered by the USSR.

[Signed] Antonio Ramalho Eanes, president of the Portuguese Republic.

From Spanish King, CP

LD131625 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2200 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Spanish head of state King Juan Carlos I of Spain sent a telegram to Vasiliy Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in which he expressed on behalf of himself and the queen his feelings of deep sympathy shared by the Spanish Government and people, on the occasion of the death of Konstantin Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, whom their majesties had the honor of knowing.

Messages of condolence on the death of Konstantin Chernenko continue arriving at the CPSU. The telegram sent by the PCE [Spanish Communist Party] Central Committee says: "Esteemed comrades, on behalf of the PCE Central Committee, we convey to you our deep sympathy on the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and head of state of the USSR.

We hold his contribution to the cause of peace and detente in high esteem. The PCE Central Committee shares the grief of the Soviet Communists and all the people of the USSR. We share the pain of this loss with the CPSU, we beg you to convey our condolences to the family of the dead man." The telegram is signed by Dolores Ibarruri, president of the PCE and Gerardo Iglesias, secretary general of the PCE.

At the Soviet Embassy in Madrid, PCE President Dolores Ibarruri, PCE Secretary General Gerardo Iglesias and Workers' Commissions Secretary General Marcelino Comacho came in person to express their condolences on the occasion of the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

From Turkish Leaders

LD131829 Moscow International Service in Turkish 1400 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] To the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

I have learned with deep regret of the death of His Excellency Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. We will remember Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko as a statesman who worked for the welfare and happiness of his country and people, and who attached importance to Turkish-Soviet friendship. I extend my own and the Turkish nation's most sincere condolences to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Soviet people, and His Excellency Chernenko's bereaved family.

[Signed] Kenan Evren, president of the Turkish Republic.

Prime Minister Ozal also sent a condolence message:

Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers,

I have learned with deep regret of the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The deceased was an honorable statesman who worked for the interests of his people and country. On the occasion of this grievous loss, My government and I extend our most sincere condolences to Your Excellency, members of your government and His Excellency Chernenko's family.

[Signed] Turgut Ozal, prime minster of the Turkish Republic.

From UK's Thatcher

PM141122 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Text] To Mr N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

On behalf of Her Majesty's government, I convey sincere condolences to you and the people of the Soviet Union in connection with the death of President Chernenko. I well remember my meeting with him in Moscow in February 1984. Although he occupied his lofty post for a comparatively short time, the Soviet Union has lost an experienced leader in him.

Margaret Thatcher, British Prime Minister.

From Cuba's F. Castro

PM141357 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Comrade V.V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

Esteemed comrades!

On behalf of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee, the government, and Cuban people, please accept our profound condolences and feelings of fraternal solidarity in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

In K.U. Chernenko the Soviet Union has lost an outstanding figure who for many years tirelessly served the cause of socialism both in the USSR and throughout the world and thereby won international recognition and respect. Having taken part since his youth in the imposing task of building socialism in his country, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko had in recent years held leading posts in the party, and in the final period of his life he was invested with responsible duties of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Invariably loyal to the cause of socialism both in fulfilling his modest duties at the first stage of his career and at the top level of leadership of Lenin's party, K.U. Chernenko displayed modesty, persistence, firmness, and devotion to the ideals he had accepted in his youth, to the socialist motherland, to whose service he devoted his entire life, and to the supreme aim in the international area -- the people's attainment of independence and world peace.

K.U. Chernenko held lofty posts in the leadership of the CPSU and the Soviet state at moments of determining importance for man's destiny. During the days when mankind has come up against the threat to peace and found itself on the verge of destruction, the Soviet Union's firm but at the same circumspect and flexible policy is acquiring increasing importance. As the supreme leader of the party and Soviet state, K.U. Chernenko, by his statement and principled stance, made a decisive contribution to efforts to restrain aggressors and to repel the dangerous doctrines with whose aid imperialism is trying to justify its desire to achieve military superiority, and made a contribution to the elaboration of ways of seeking mutually acceptable solutions making it possible to resume the process of international detente, replacing dangerous confrontation with the necessary talks.

On the basis of the practice of building the socialist society, K.U. Chernenko had in recent years contributed to explaining the essence of developed socialism and its prospects in his speeches aimed at elucidating the common natural laws of the socialist countries' development.

In K.U. Chernenko Cuba had an unvarying friend who wonderfully expressed the solidarity of the CPSU, the Soviet Government, and the Soviet people with our socialist island. We will never forget his participation in the work of the Second PCC Congress. His constant concern for fraternal Soviet-Cuban relations won him the gratitude of all Communists and the people of our country.

Expressing to the CPSU and the Soviet Government our grief in connection with the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, we want to affirm to you, dear comrades, our faith in the party and people of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, our loyalty to the principles of the resolute and vigorous defense of peace, which include both a rebuff to any attempts to impose imperialism's military superiority and efforts aimed at the resurrection of peaceful coexistence.

We also know that the Soviet Union's loyalty to the principles of internationalism is indestructible, and we are sure that the friendship between our peoples and parties, the solidarity which unites us, and the Soviet Union's support for the defense of national sovereignty and the building of socialism in Cuba are irreversible.

We ask you, esteemed comrades, to convey to the Communists and Soviet people and to the members of K.U. Chernenko's family our deepest condolences.

Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers.

From Nicaragua's Ortega

PM141005 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 85 First Edition p 5

[Text] To Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

Esteemed comrade!

In connection with the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which has caused profound grief among us, I extend condolences to you on behalf of the people and Government of Nicaragua and the Sandinist National Liberation Front. Please convey our condolences to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the party, the government, and the Soviet people, and also to the relatives and friends of Chernenko.

During the time that he worked in the most responsible posts in the Soviet state and party and also previously, Chernenko treated Nicaragua with special love and understanding, which was displayed in the solid support for the Nicaraguan revolution and the selfless cooperation rendered to our motherland, which serves as a support for it in the struggle for development and independence.

I wish to tell you that the Nicaraguan Government has declared 3 days of national mourning in the country. The government I lead and also the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front have instructed me to take part in K.U. Chernenko's funeral.

Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic and member of National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front

From India's Gandhi

PM131219 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To Mr N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

We were deeply saddened by the death of His Excellency President Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. President Chernenko's life was devoted to his country's service. He served the people of the great Soviet Union in various responsible posts from his youth and made an invaluable contribution to the cause of their progress and prosperity. As leader of the USSR he demonstrated his dedication to the cause of increasing the Soviet people's well-being and his patriotism. In the sphere of international relations he put forward a number of initiatives aimed at strengthening peace and containing the nuclear arms race.

Although I did not have the honor of meeting him in person we had exchanged opinions through correspondence on international problems and questions of bilateral cooperation. He was profoundly devoted to the cause of developing and expanding Indian-Soviet friendship. I had hoped to meet him in the Soviet Union this summer.

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf, I express sincere sympathy and condolences to the family of the late president and to the Government and people of the Soviet Union.

Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India

From Pakistan's Ziaul Haq

PM131137 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] To the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

On behalf of the Pakistani Government and on my own behalf, I express to Your Excellencies our deep condolences in connection with the sad demise of His Excellency Mr Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

It was with close attention that we followed the late president's purposeful efforts to improve the living standard in the USSR during his brief term as leader. We share the grief of the people of the Soviet Union over the loss of an outstanding statesman.

I ask Your Excellencies to convey our sincere sympathy to the members of the deceased's family.

General M. Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

From Syria's Al-Asad

PM131223 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 85 First Edition p 4

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers.

Comrades! It was with deep sorrow that we heard of the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, after a life full of great service to his motherland and of struggle for the cause of socialism and peace.

We share your grief over this loss and recall with gratitude his constant efforts to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Soviet Union and his support for our people's struggle agains the Israeli occupation and the aggressive imperialist and Israeli plans.

Comrade K.U. Chernenko, whom we knew well as a fighter and a man worthy of respect, placed his entire lifelong experience at the service of the Soviet Union and the cause of stepping up the struggle for the establishment of truly just relations among peoples.

On behalf of the Arab people of Syria, on my own account, and on behalf of the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, I send you, the friendly Soviet people, and Comrade K.U. Chernenko's family heartfelt deepfelt condolences.

Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic

From WFTU's Zakaria

LD132317 Moscow TASS in English 1658 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- The World Federation of Trade Unions has offered profound condolences to the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government and all Soviet people in connection with the death of Konstantin Chernenko. "The whole of the life of Konstantin Chernenko was devoted to the interests of the working class. His great contribution to the development and consolidation of socialism in the Soviet Union, to the preservation of peace on our planet have been recognized the world over," points out a telegram signed by the WFTU Secretary General Ibrahim Zakaria.

From U.S., Japanese CP's

LD140005 Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- Henry Winston, Gus Hall, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USA, expressed condolences to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union upon Konstantin Chernenko's death.

It is said in their telegram, specifically, that the invariably intensive efforts of Konstantin Chernenko, the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the CPSU Central Committee, with the aim of finding the roads to serious talks to put an end to the nuclear arms race, prevent its spread to outer space and arrest the sliding to nuclear war has led to the present talks in Geneva. A flexible approach and also the resolve to ensure the possibilities for reaching agreement based on the principle of equality and equal security made it possible to win over more millions of people to the cause of peace.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan expressed sincere condolences to Konstantin Chernenko's family, to the Central Committee, to all members of the CPSU, to the Soviet people.

From Various Foreign Parties

LD132346 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0734 GMT 13 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] More condolences on the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko have been received from heads of state and government, outstanding political and public figures, and leaders of political parties in various countries. Condolences have been sent by the National Council of the Indian Communist Party; Ruben Dario Sousa, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Party of Panama; Rene Mauge, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Ecuadoran Communist Party; and (Bolivar Bolanes), acting president of the Confederation of Ecuadoran Workers; Horst Schmitt, chairman of the SEW; Pablo Gomez, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mexican United Socialist Party; Athos Fava, secretary general of the Argentine Communist Party; and others.

GAS PIPELINES COMPLETED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

LD140935 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 13 TASS -- All major Soviet gas pipelines planned for the current five-year-plan period (1981-1985) have been built ahead of schedule despite attempts by the United States to impede this.

The last, sixth threat of a pipeline more than 3,000 kilometres in length was welded late in February, and now the assembly of compressor stations is nearing completion, a TASS correspondent was told at the USSR Ministry for Building Enterprises of the Oil and Gas Industry.

It shall be recalled that by the end of 1985 it was intended to build six gas pipelines with a total length of slightly more then 20,000 kilometres and install 172 compressor stations on them. These pipelines carry gas from the world's biggest Urengoy deposit in Western Siberia to the European part of the Soviet Union. The export pipeline carries gas to Western Europe.

Now they in the United States prefer to forget about the failure of Washington's sanctions to frustrate the construction of the world's biggest gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe (about 4,500 kilometres in length). These sanctions could not but fail because they did not accord with the interests either of the West European countries, which are in need of natural gas, or American companies which were losing orders to the tune of billions of dollars. Neither could they foil Soviet plans. A part of the equipment which the USSR intended to buy in the West was manufactured in the Soviet Union. Some machines, for instance those for the automatic welding of pipes or heavy pipelayers, either do not have analogues in the world or are superior to foreign models. As to compressor stations with a capacity of 25 megawatts, the purchase of which outside of the Soviet Union was blocked by the United States, their batch production was organised in Leningrad.

The Soviet Union builds gas pipelines mostly by itself using Soviet equipment. The technology worked out on the basis of this equipment makes it possible to lay pipes at a pace not known in any other country of the world. Even though builders had to pass through perma frost areas, cross hundreds of rivers and lakes they advanced at a speed of 50-60 kilometres a day. Thanks to this speed the USSR built six major gas pipelines not in five years, as it was planned, but in four and a half years.

The Soviet Union has fulfilled its commitments to its West European partners which are now getting Siberian gas. As it was remarked by THE NEW YORK TIMES, what was intended to demonstrate the economic vulnerability of the USSR, in reality turned into a demonstration of the USSR's economic might.

GOVERNMENT BODY DEBATES LAKE BAYKAL POLLUTION

PM111613 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 10 Mar 85 p 2

[TASS report: "Nature Conservation on the Agenda"]

[Text] On 7 March a routine session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission on Environmental Conservation and Rational Utilization of Natural Resources discussed the question of measures to preserve the natural environment in the Lake Baykal basin.

The session took into consideration the report by the State Committee for Science and Technology, USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood-Processing Industry, USSR Academy of Sciences, and RSFSR Council of Ministers which stated that in the course of carrying out party and government decisions in recent years, a complex of measures has been implemented which has made it possible to improve the conservation of natural resources in Lake Baykal.

At the same time, the commission noted that the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood-Processing Industry, the Ministry of Medium Machine Building, the Ministry of Transport Construction, and the RSFSR Council of Ministers failed to ensure the fulfillment of a number of important nature conservation measures in the Lake Baykal basin. The USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood-Processing Industry, the Ministry of Medium Machine Building, the Ministry for Construction in the Far East and Transbaykal Regions, and the RSFSR Council of Ministers were instructed to ensure fulfillment of the schedule for the completion of targets for the construction of nature conversation facilities without fail. The RSFSR Council of Ministers, in conjunction with the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood-Processing Industry, the USSR State Committee for Forestry, and other integrated ministries and departments, was instructed to ensure the elaboration in 1985-1987 of an integrated, territorial nature conservation scheme for Lake Baykal with a view to the development of the region's production forces through the year 2000.

The commission heard reports by the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production, the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, and the Georgian, Azerbaijan, and Armenian SSR Councils of Ministers on the fulfillment of targets set by the USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Additional Measures To Protect the Caspian Sea From Pollution." These ministries and union republic councils of ministers were instructed to adopt additional measures to make up for lost ground in fulfilling targets on stopping the discharge of untreated waste into the Caspian Sea at enterprises and in cities located in the Trancaucasian republics and to accelerate the construction and commissioning of the requisite water conservation facilities.

The commission examined the question of stepping up conservation and regulating the procurement of medicinal wild plants. It was noted that there are serious shortcomings in the conservation, reproduction, and organization of the procurement of medicinal wild plants. The result is that there has been a reduction in stocks of medicinal wild plants and the public health sector's demand for medicines made from these plants is not being fully met. The USSR State Committee for Forestry, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Medical Industry, the USSR Ministry of Health, the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, Tsentrosoyuz, union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, krayispolkoms, and oblispolkoms were instructed to adopt measures ensuring effective conservation and reproduction of medicinal plants and regulation of procurements. The Ministry of the Medical Industry and the USSR Ministry of Health, in particular, were instructed to step up explanatory work among the population concerning the correct use of medicinal plants.

The session also examined the question of environmental conservation measures during the construction and operation of nuclear power stations.